Daily Report

Latin America

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Cuba

Alarcon Discusses U.S. Ties, Rafters

PA0405170495 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 4 May 95

[Interview with Ricardo Alarcon de Quesada, president of Cuba's ANPP, by Nidia Diaz, from GRANMA; Irma Caceres, from the "National Television Newscast"; and Francisco Villanueva, in Havana; from the "This Very Day" program—live]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Diaz] Comrade Alarcon, in spite of the wide coverage given to the signing of this complementary agreement between Cuba and the United States, we believe that there are still points which have not been fully clarified, at least to some sectors of our public. Regarding this, I think the number one question on people's minds is the quota of rafters. In other words, how will the rafters quota affect the annual flow of the 20,000 visas that the U.S. Government pledged to grant to Cuban citizens in the September 1994 agreements? Will the expected rafters quota affect the 20,000 visas?

[Alarcon] In reality, this should not affect the 20,000 visas in any way. We must understand that this agreement is intended to resolve a complex problem: that of persons who are now on Guantanamo Base. The solution of this problem should not bring about a repeat of the problem. That is why it is linked to the clear determination not to allow new attempts at illegal migration, and the return to Cuba of those attempting to reach U.S. shores. This agreement allows the entry of most rafters in Guantanamo to the United States.

We believe it was the most humane, most logical formula; it was the only way to do this. We must understand that in the United States—because the same happens in many developed countries—there is a very strong anti-migrant sentiment. The anti-migrant sentiment was evident in the favorable reaction to the accord, that is, to the idea of not having another massive entry of foreigners into the United States. That is now the reality.

Then how do we solve the problem of rapidly incorporating a large number of people into the United States—those in Guantanamo—and at the same time maintaining the agreement and quota the United States pledged to maintain? We must say the United States is fulfilling its part, as may be seen in those visas granted this year. This allows us to be confident that by September, the United States will have granted more than 20,000. According to our current projections it will have granted 26,000 visas.

You must remember that the United States has pledged to grant a minimum number of visas. If this was a ceiling figure, it would be clear that anything one subtracts [words indistinct] reduction in the number of people traveling. In reality, what we are saying is that the United States, with our cooperation, will try to send those in Guantanamo to the United States, in a short period of time. I think that during this year they hope to empty Guantanamo Base, that is, no more migrants would remain there. This does not mean that the acceptance of any person in Guantanamo will entail the loss of one visa in Havana. In the first place, the situation of Guantanamo will not be taken into consideration until next year. The agreement states that this will not be considered until 9 September 1995.

The agreement states that the United States will be able to deduct up to 5,000 visas for people from Guantanamo in the future, in terms of numbers needed to fulfill the minimum required, even though those persons have traveled this year. But this does not mean that a person who has the qualifications, who has done all his paperwork, and who is considered an acceptable candidate wishing to emigrate, will not be accepted because we must consider that someone [word indistinct) in Guantanamo. This is something that has not been expressed perhaps... [pauses] something I called in the news conference the least satisfactory paragraph from a viewpoint of style, but which deals with a very complicated matter.

I think that we must first consider that this is a humane problem, subject to the influence of a society that rejects the idea of receiving thousands of immigrants. With that in mind, this is a way of rapidly solving the situation of those living in Guantanamo, but that will not affect anyone who applies for a visa in Havana. The agreement refers to a minimum number of persons.

Just like this year, the minimum of 20,000 visas will result in 26,000 visas being granted, when numerically or mathematically the minimum should be 15,000, it may result [words indistinct] in a larger number.

[Diaz] Are the refugees who are in Grand Cayman included in the Guantanamo rafters quota?

[Alarcon] Those who are in Guantanamo?

[Diaz] Those who are in Grand Cayman.

[Alarcon] That is different. The document containing the joint declaration between the United States and Cuba does not include the United Kingdom.

[Diaz] Since we are talking about practical things, this morning I went by the U.S. Interests Section where many people go each day to conduct different businesses. The general feeling was that this will affect the persons requesting a visa, who considered it absolutely unjust. Some people have been on waiting lists since 1979, 1985.

[Alarcon] All of them will travel this year. We resolved the problems of those people, and all of those in the waiting list have been guaranteed. I understand the U.S. Interests Section has summoned them. Their cases will be resolved beyond any figure this year.

[Diaz] But they speak of the bureaucracy of the paperwork, which delays the issuing of their visas. They said they think the United States may give preference to the rafters, who have waited less time than they have.

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Dozens of people were very disturbed over this situation. The other thing that worried people there was the drawing. They think it may adversely affect them. The United States said that the drawing was for people who did not have relatives or someone who could get them into the country. Now they are demanding the same documentation and paperwork required of those who have relatives in the United States. Even the thing about the ticket is pending.

When the U.S. and Cuban delegation discussed each of the points of the agreement, did you analyze these things or did you view things in a more general manner?

[Alarcon] We discuss things in great detail there. The drawing would allow a person without relatives in the United States to travel and emigrate to that country, but it would also allow persons with relatives in the United States to travel. I imagine that the United States is interested in this information, namely if prospective visa applicants have relatives in the United States. I don't think this means establishing categories: those with relatives and those without. I think it is natural for a country that is going to authorize the entry of a foreign citizen into its territory, to know if that foreign citizen has relatives in that country. I don't know if there is too much bureaucracy in their paperwork, but there are certain procedures that must be viewed as normal.

After all, the September agreement establishes a U.S. commitment to grant a minimum number of visas to Cuba. If we could possibly investigate, we would find out that other pledges were made to grant a specific number of visas. I don't want to defend the United States, but I want to be fair. We cannot really think they are treating Cubans in an adverse manner, compared to the treatment given to the rest of the world. In reality, there are millions of people on the planet in southern countries who wish to emigrate to more developed countries, and the U.S. consulates there are not obligated to grant a maximum number of visas. According to U.S. law, the famous 20,000 visas are the greatest amount of people from one country that may travel to the United States.

In the case of Cuba, as part of last year's negotiations to resolve the problem, once and for all, an alternative was offered. The only alternative to enter the United States as of 1200 last Tuesday is through normal procedures to obtain a visa. But this country, which is being treated now like other countries, receives additionally what other countries would view as a goal. I think I must recognize that this is appropriate in terms of the United States making more flexible its immigration policy.

[Villanueva] Does this agreement put an end to the Cuban Adjustment Act? If not, wouldn't this affect the implementation of the agreements?

[Alarcon] Listen, the law was obviously approved by the U.S. Congress. The declaration is a declaration of the government, the U.S. Administration. What is clear, beyond the validity of the law,—which should be left up to jurists to discuss—the fundamental thing, is that the policy reflected on that Cuban Adjustment Act, and the way in which it was applied systematically since then has changed. I am sure you know well how the U.S. and Miami media have highlighted the fundamental issue of this agreement: The change of a practice implemented systematically before the Cuban Adjustment Act, since 1 January 1959, which the law enacted from the juridical viewpoint.

The validity of the law or not should be left to U.S. jurists to interpret. What is clear, however, is the commitment to abandon the policy that gave rise to that law.

[Reporter] The document clearly states that as of 2 May no Cuban citizen who arrives illegally in the United States can remain and will be deported. I have the same doubts that some companeros who have approached us have expressed: Does this imply branding as illegals those Cuban citizens who arrive in the United States under a temporary visa and, after the term expires, decide to stay?

[Reporter] Or even third countries.

[Alarcon] [Words indistinct] those people, a person who arrives with in a country with a visa has arrived there legally. In other words, that person has not arrived there illegally. If the visa specifies that the person is authorized to remain in that country for 30 days, on the 31st day that person is in violation of the permit as issued. The U.S. attorney general said that Cubans who arrive on U.S. territory by irregular means will be subject to an exclusion process. Deportation is a clearer way of saying this in Spanish. They will treated just as all other illegal immigrants from other countries are treated. Using your example, the United States would treat these people in the same way as any foreigner in the United States who stays beyond the expiration of his visa. In theory, this date could be extended, more time could be granted, and so on. What is clear is that one requests permission to enter someone else's home for a specific amount of time; the stay is for that time and no other.

[Reporter] In other words, the United States would have legal grounds for deporting those Cuban citizens—some of them, whatever the number—once the temporary visa expires?

[Alarcon] Presumably yes.

[Reporter] Presumably yes.

[Alarcon] Of course, even though I believe that the biggest concern, and this is reflected in her words, is about the abnormal, the irregular, and the illegal arrivals. She says: those who arrive by irregular means. Your example is of someone who arrives normally, naturally, and legally. There might be reasons why that person would want to stay longer or even permanently. This is not exactly the same as someone who enters by force, those who steal a craft, those who enter without ever having asked for a visa. That is a clear and typical case of

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illegal means. And as she says immediately afterward, she reiterates her opposition to the use of force in connection with illegal departures from Cuba and her determination to follow up on hijacking cases or cases involving contraband of foreigners. Those who arrive with a normal visa have not hijacked or have committed contraband and are simply breaking a rule, a norm. It is a case about which one could say... [pauses] although technically speaking...

[Reporter, interrupting] One would have to wait... [pauses] Excuse me, I ask you this question because usually officials at the U.S. Interests Office say that they don't grant a sufficient number of temporary visas because the applicant might end up an immigrant.

[Alarcon] Of course.

[Reporter] Does this law say, instead: No, everyone who runs out of time—because it definitely violates a migration law—all those whose time has expired and who thus break the law may be deported? Then that pretext of not granting a greater number of temporary visas to Cuban citizens who wish to visit relatives and so forth would be irrelevant.

[Villanueva] There's not much time left. Anyway, I believe we all have questions. On the basis of what she just said, which refers to hijacking and violations, aren't federal and state laws contradictory, like I said before? I refer, for example, to the Macias case, Macias the assassin.

[Alarcon] They might be contradictory, even though one can see that in certain cases federal laws overrule state laws for certain crimes. There are crimes that due to their importance imply contravening federal law and have to be treated that way. I say this because even though we know that in Florida, due to the influence of certain factors, sometimes it is not that easy for justice to be served. But those who commit a federal crime in Florida are not doing so locally. It is clear that federal law is committed to pursuing those crimes, opposing such actions, and punishing them. If this contradicts, as in the case you mentioned, what a local judge decides, then they are obliged to agree, and we must admit that they are complying, to continue to insist and continue to insist until justice is done. That has been the government's position up to now.

[Reporter] We are still discussing practical matters. How would Cuba view the situation of rafters who have come back across the border in one way or another and now want to leave again? There will probably also be some who are not accepted by the United States and then return. People in general—and rafters are no exception—are always concerned about how Cuba would treat them.

[Alarcon] On that last question, the agreement is very specific. Those people will be returned to Cuba, and they are truly very few in number. The press agencies have sent inaccurate information and have mentioned numbers that no one has released. If one reads carefully everything that was said in Washington, never have such high numbers been mentioned. On the contrary, they said they would consider inadmissible the admittance to the United States of people from Guantanamo. In terms of those who returned home earlier, it is possible that some may still want to emigrate. I understand that there are a few cases, but far from a majority. Nevertheless, for the time being these people [words indistinct] like normal citizens. We must also consider them along with those who did not leave the base and who are still there. I think this would be fair.

We believe that those who returned from the Guantanamo base and want to emigrate should be granted the ability to migrate, provided they meet the requirements. One cannot force the United States to grant someone a visa. If they meet the requirements and have returned from Guantanamo, I believe they should be given some sort of priority. I have reason to believe that the U.S. side agrees with this idea.

[Reporter] Are the people who tried to leave illegally and were even penalized for violating the law be in the same boat? Would they have to do the same paperwork as the rest of the people?

[Alarcon] They should go have to submit the same paperwork. I don't think anyone should claim a special right for having violated the law of his own country and that of a neighboring country. By agreeing to process and study the cases of people who clearly have ignored and violated their law, North Americans would really be condescending. Although the agreement clearly stipulates that no harmful actions would be taken, including those on immigration procedures for entering the United States, no one can rightly claim that he has a right to ignore regulations that exist and apply everywhere. For instance, no one can legally break into your home without your permission. If you allow him to enter, he should bow down a few times and give you many thanks, but he should not claim a right over and above anyone else's for entering your home.

[Reporter] Because many of these people have been encouraged by promises made through certain radio stations and other people, they feel they have certain rights. This is what one observes in talking with them.

[Alarcon] It is true that to a large extent, historically speaking, many of these people have been victims of political manipulation. Now it is also true that, at least since last summer, our government and the U.S. Government have been saying and reiterating that this policy has changed. In addition, you media people report every day that the immigrants are persecuted and stripped of their rights and that there is a very strong movement against immigrants in the United States. Therefore, those first years of the revolution, years of open doors, are a thing of the past. Some people still do not understand this. Unfortunately, some people have even suffered personal consequences.

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But something important should be said about this. Let everyone clearly understand the message of the September agreement. Cubans must understand that the only way to enter the United States is by going through the legal paperwork in Havana. But this does not mean that because the applicant is a Cuban and wishes to emigrate, the U.S. Government must issue him a visa. Millions of people all over the world want to emigrate somewhere. The number of people who cannot emigrate or are turned down would circle Cuba several times and would be equivalent of many times Cuba's total population.

In the Cuban case, the issue was manipulated. But this is over; this is over. There is a clear and serious commitment and obligation that as of now, illegality will not be tolerated, and any person who violates Cuban or U.S. laws will not be welcome and allowed to emigrate to the United States. The attorney general has said it, I have said it, and it is stipulated in the agreement. This is something else: We can expect their policy on normal and legal emigration from Cuba to become, for Cuba, a commitment to be treated, at least, as they treat the rest of the world. I really believe that although it is true there have been victims and confusion and consequences of those harmful and negative policies that were implemented for three decades, it is also true that now we are making, for the first time, a serious effort to leave those policies behind and to take corrective measures that will provide a human and rational solution to an old issue.

[Caceres] Alarcon, since yesterday the U.S. side has been insisting that these agreements are the result of the cost to the United States of keeping the rafters on the base—$1 million a day—and of the fact that there always is the latent threat of riots that could adversely affect the safety of the 6,000 North Americans stationed there. But I believe we could pose another interpretation of this, and I want ask about that interpretation. What factors in the U.S. domestic policy have led us to this new understanding between the Governments of Cuba and the United States, which sent a delegation comprised of some North American negotiators who are different from and higher ranking than those sent previously?

[Diaz] If you could add to that question... [laughs]

[Alarcon, interrupting] Some answers are difficult to...

[Diaz, interrupting] You could add to this question: Will this situation—namely, the normalization of Cuban-U.S. migration relations—stop being a political issue in relations with the United States?

[Alarcon] Look, Nidia, I believe I was talking about several factors that together could play some kind of role. It is difficult for them. An unfavorable attitude exists in the United States toward migration from Latin America, and not always for praiseworthy reasons. There are a lot of negative factors at work here, including xenophobia. But I believe it is only fair to recognize that the current administration has certain positive factors, because no one has done this before. No one had ever been able to get away from what—as one mafioso said in Miami—the policies of nine presidents. Then, along comes the 10th president, and he turns things around 180 degrees. I believe certain social and economic factors were considered, but there are some factors that allowed for the presence of a political resolve that had been lacking for a long time. And even though there are discrepancies, even though the blockade and hostilities continue, and even though U.S. policies have not changed at their core, we must recognize that as far as this issue is concerned, they were able to do what they couldn't do before.

[Villanueva] In this regard, Alarcon, an interesting fact emerged in the last few hours, and I would like to know your opinion. The chief of the so-called Cuban interests office in the State Department has asked to be reassigned, as has his principal aide. It [words indistinct] in the last phase, and I believe this could be a contradiction inside the State Department or between the State Department and the administration.

[Alarcon] I really am in no position to help you on this one. If the information reported by the media is true, it seems strange that people linked to this issue decide to find another job the day that issue is brought up. This situation has taken some entities by surprise. I don't know why; I don't know what is behind this. I don't know what kind of contradiction this is. This is why I can't help you.

[Villanueva] Do you think that incidents like the one in Oklahoma have somehow kept away U.S. ultra-right sectors not only in the North American society but also inside the U.S. Congress, sectors that could somehow alleviate the damage the Helms-Burton bill has caused?

[Alarcon] I hope so, I hope so. I believe that the Oklahoma incident has really shocked the U.S. society; it was a blunt blow because of, first, the incident itself...

[Villanueva, interrupting] Virtually against the establishment [preceding word in English].

[Alarcon] Naturally. First, it is the incident itself, the destruction within the heart of the United States, as they say, and the number of innocent victims, the children. The second blow came when North American society saw itself facing the fact that, contrary to what certain media reported at the beginning—namely, that Latinos, Arabs, or foreigners had perpetrated the attack—white, racist, ultrarightist North Americans carried out the attack, people who have such extreme reactionary thoughts that they perceive their own government as their primary enemy. I believe this shows to what extent extremist reactionaries are willing to go.

I am not going to accuse Helms or those mafiosos of Cuban origin now living in Miami of having something to do with the Oklahoma City attack, but I am certain that if one performs psychological tests on the perpetrators of this barbaric act, one would find similar personalities. One would find these individuals have thoughts

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so anachronistic, dull, and ultrareactionary that one could say that these people go hand in hand with the others.

Right now, we have the joint declaration. I have not seen any other hostile or critical reaction toward this agreement, except for those criticisms uttered by Mr. Helms; a couple of congressmen who, despite being born in Cuba, know nothing about being Cuban and who coauthored the bill; and, of course, the leaders of the so-called Miami Foundation. They have uttered their reactions with the same extremism and in a manner as noisy as the Oklahoma explosion, reflecting a true hysteria and a line of thought and action that is compatible with the mentality or behavior that leads to incidents such as the one in Oklahoma.

Right now in the United States, there is natural and normal rejection and condemnation by large segments of North American society that have had to face the sordid and terrible face of North American reality. I would therefore say that given the strident action of those fascists in Miami and by Mr. Helms, this is the least favorable time. It is a time in which they will get the least attention from millions of Americans.

Whether this will be reflected in the passage of an immoral, illegal, and absurd law, which would even adversely affect U.S. interests themselves, remains to be seen.

A while ago someone from CNN asked me if I had a message for Senator Helms. I would dare him to do what we have started today, to publicly discuss his bill, to explain the bill to American businessmen, and to American workers. If the bill is discussed, they will see how it will create new difficulties for the United States. It would isolate the United States internationally even more. It would even adversely affect U.S. interests. Helms should try to imitate us.

[Reporter] In Miami they've been saying that an agreement had been reached and that Cuban-U.S. immigration relations could be normalized, but that the United States still has Cuba on a list of terrorist countries. How do you interpret this? Is this is a threat?

[Alarcon] They have a little list [listica] going around. There are countries on that list, but I do not know if the United States is on that list. [chuckles] You can see from recent incidents that not only are there explosions in Oklahoma, but there are reports that thousands are organized into militias. These heavily armed people are warmongers. They are not little terrorist groups from Third World countries. These groups are perfectly well-armed in a strange country like the United States. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled a few days ago that a law banning the use of firearms in elementary schools is unconsitutional. This law had been approved by Congress at the government's request.

How do you classify a country where people in elementary schools are able to carry, sell, rent, and purchase firearms? It is unconstitutional to try and prevent it, according to the magistrates. There is a terrorist mentality, even in the Supreme Court. There are thousands of organized armed terrorists in the United States.

The Oklahoma incident was their second shock. They invented the idea that they are a perfect society with just a few problems, unlike the situation in Third World countries, but suddenly they wake up and find that they are full of terrorists and people with terrorist mentalities. These terrorists are capable of killing children without any regrets.

[Reporter] White people are becoming the victims, not just the chicanos or the blacks.

[Villanueva] I think there are many other things we could talk about with Comrade Alarcon, but we have a program ready on the public hearing held today to discuss aspects of this bill at the Convention Palace. You will be able to watch this program in one minute. We thank Comrade Ricardo Alarcon for his participation in our program. No doubt his words have cleared up many doubts for many persons. We also thank Comrade Nidia and Irma for their participation too.

Alarcon Discusses Property Rights at Helms-Burton Hearings

FL0505002395 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 4 May 95

[Report by Gisela Bel Heredia; from the "Exclusive" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Cuban Union of Journalists held public hearings on the Helms-Burton bill at the International Press Center this afternoon. Journalists and Cuba experts continued the discussions on the bill's text that National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] deputies involved with international relations, constitutional, and legal issues opened yesterday. In addition to reviewing and discussing the bill's content, participants addressed the responsibility of the press to inform the public of the content, scope, and claims of the illegal bill that aims to reinforce the blockade of Cuba.

ANPP President Ricardo Alarcon de Quesada participated in the meeting, pointing out that the Helms bill addresses the issue of property and U.S. citizens:

[Begin Alarcon recording] Now, for the first time, this bill modifies and redefines this issue and extends to the persons...[pauses] It now refers to persons from the United States. What does persons from the United States mean? It refers to people who were not U.S. citizens when this category was established in 1959 but who now are. The bill extends to this second group the rights that the former owners supposedly had: Their interests will be defended by the U.S. Government in efforts to gain compensation for their properties which were not owned by U.S. citizens when they were nationalized in Cuba. [end recording]

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The National Association of Small Farmers and Committees for the Defense of the Revolution will hold public hearings this evening.

U.S. Studies Director on Bill: Cuba 'Not Only Target'

FL0405135595 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1155 GMT 4 May 95

[Interview with professor Esteban Morales, director of the Center for U.S. Studies in Havana University by correspondent Fernando Davalos; from the "Doing Radio" program—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Davalos] I want to know your opinion on the ongoing National Assembly of the People's Government public hearing in Havana. Perhaps you can draw a parallel with the coming U.S. Congress debate on the Helms-Burton bill.

[Morales] This hearing is very important. I believe that this hearing can offer great help from the Cuban perspective, which goes beyond the problems affecting our nation, to include the current international relations situation. It can help to understand the real goal of the Helms-Burton bill.

The bill, despite being an anti-Cuban project, has further reaching intentions. Some U.S. ultra-conservative sectors want to control international relations, in the image and likeness of certain interests which have come to light in a very negative way recently in the United States.

[Davalos] Then we cannot say that it is directed exclusively against Cuba, even when it definitely affects us.

[Morales] Cuba is not the only target. The bill is part of a large ultra-conservative project to limit even the power of the U.S. President to lead foreign policy, and in addition, to limit the ability of the U.S. people to have free international relations.

[Davalos] Is it some kind of revenge?

[Morales] I would agree that this is a revenge from the ultra-conservative sector. They developed a cultural project to go against the so-called [word indistinct] coalition, which prevailed after the Second World War, and in recent years are trying to implement a system of policy making which would return the world to the Cold War times, or even worse.

[Davalos] Thank you very much. We have heard the qualified views of a U.S. affairs specialist.

Cuban-American National Alliance on Immigration Accord

FL0405182195 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 May 95

[From the "National Radio News"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The recent immigration agreement between Cuba and the United States have generated different responses. Raimundo del Toro, Cuban-American National Alliance spokesman, stressed the organization's support for the measures during a phone interview with PRENSA LATINA.

Del Toro stated that the agreement's goal is to normalize the immigration relations between both countries, and expressed his hope that the steps taken will lead to the end of the blockade against Cuba, and travel restrictions against Cuban exiles in the United States.

Additionally, Del Toro announced that the Cuban-American National Alliance—with U.S. headquarters, and the U.S. organization Global Exchange, have offered aid to Cubans in Guantanamo who qualify to travel to the United States based on the agreement.

Del Toro acknowledged that not all Cuban exiles in the United States share his views. Yet, he highlighted that opposition comes from right wing and rich sectors in the south of Florida, which distort the real situation.

The immigration agreement also indicates that Cuban citizens intercepted in high seas trying to enter illegally to the United States will be returned to Cuba.

Commentary Notes Migration Accord Angers U.S. Sectors

PA0505035295 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 May 95

[Commentary by Norberto Hernandez from the "Evening Information Review" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] The new Cuban-U.S. migration agreement, which certainly normalizes a very important aspect of bilateral relations, has had the effect of an electric shock or a slap in the face for the ultraright Cuban emigrant sector in Florida.

Jorge Mas Canosa, the great mafia capo of the so-called Cuban American Foundation, angrily said the U.S. Government did not consult with his organization before making this decision. It is evident that the support of former administrations, such as Ronald Reagan's and George Bush's, has obscured the vision of this clique which has profited immensely from counterrevolutionary activities. This is displayed by these people's belief that the U.S. Government must consult with them prior to making such decisions.

Ultrarightist counterrevolutionaries and Representatives Lincoln Diaz-Balart and Ileana Ross also criticized the agreement. Senator Jesse Helms, the Senate's dinosaur and the originator of the crazy proposal to tighten the economic embargo against Cuba at the cost of alienating his country from its most important allies, also reacted angrily at the news that migration relations

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between the United States and Cuba had been normalized. Of course, the newspapers at the service of millionaire Mas Canosa also sounded the alarm when they saw their comfortable income threatened.

Within the government, meanwhile, our attention was arrested by the reported resignations of Dennis Hays and his assistant Nancy Mason when the historic agreement was announced. This decision by someone who directly participated in the negotiations on behalf of his government and now disagrees with the agreement sounds strange. This decision seems to indicate that Hays had some kind of agreement with the enraged ultrarightists and now wants to somehow justify his own inability to block the agreement.

The logical conclusion that we Cubans living on the island can draw is that, if our bitterest enemies are upset to the point of wrath over this migration agreement, it is for no other reason than it must be very positive for both sides, particularly for us. We have always wanted to normalize our relations with the United States, and Cuban authorities have said this time and time again. No one can find pleasure in being alienated from his closest neighbor in which we have always had many friends and from which—and why should we deny it?—we have learned many good things.

Cuba and the United States can live in peace with one another and have good relations within a framework of mutual respect if the independence and sovereignty of the two countries are properly recognized. Not long ago, the U.S. authorities admitted Cuba's effective cooperation in combating drug trafficking in the area surrounding the two countries, thereby undermining another slander campaign organized by the anti-Cuban counterrevolutionaries.

Ricardo Alarcon, president of the Cuban National Assembly of the People's Government and chief negotiator for the Cuban side, told the press that this fair treatment of Cuba is an important achievement. It is a recognition of Cuba's independence and sovereignty, which opens an important vista in terms of the future normalization of relations between the two countries.

Spokesman on Nonaligned Movement's Opposition to Embargo

PA0405215695 Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish 1809 GMT 4 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Havana, 4 May (PL)—Cuba today stressed the Nonaligned Movement's (NAL) opposition of the U.S. embargo and the new anti-Cuban plans proposed by U.S. congressmen.

In his regular meeting with the press, Cuban Foreign Ministry spokesman Miguel Alfonso mentioned one of the resolutions unanimously adopted during the NOAL Coordination Committee's ministerial meeting held in Bandung, Indonesia.

Alfonso said Deputy Foreign Minister Fernando Ramirez de Estenoz returned to Havana after participating in this meeting, where those in attendance, according to Alfonso, affirmed their solidarity with Cuba.

Alfonso said the ministers called on the U.S. Government to end quickly and effectively, in accordance with a resolution of the UN General Assembly majority, the embargo imposed on Cuba more than three decades ago. Commenting on the NOAL statement, he said: "The disagreements between the two countries should be resolved through dialogue and negotiations."

Alfonso added that the ministers expressed their concern over the new bills presented to the U.S. Congress to internationalize the blockade of Havana and to expand the extraterritoriality of the embargo.

He also reported on Cuban Deputy Foreign Minister Benigno Perez's recent visits to Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, Iraq, and Yemen—an opportunity that served to strengthen ties with these Middle East nations.

In addition, he confirmed Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina's visit in the near future to Ukraine, Russia, and Belarus. This visit will be followed by a tour through the English-speaking Caribbean, but the date has not yet been set.

Honoring an invitation by Robaina, Bolivian Foreign Minister Antonio Aranibar is expected in Havana tonight. He will meet with several local government officials.

Mexican Joint Venture To Improve Telecommunications

FL0405150995 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1155 GMT 4 May 95

[From the "Doing Radio" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] Esteban Lazo, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Party, and Conrado Martinez Corona, president of the Provincial Assembly of the People's Government in Havana, have chaired a meeting of the 102 presidents of Havana's People's Council, to discuss the phone service situation in Cuba.

Communications Minister Brig. Gen. Silvano Colas, participated in the meeting, and stated that the long-term investment plan will gradually solve problems in the service, and stop its decline.

Colas explained the multiple steps taken to continue offering the phone service efficiently. He highlighted the important role of the new Cuban-Mexican joint telecommunication enterprise. He added that despite the private nature of this enterprise, it will charge the service in Cuban pesos.

[Begin Colas recording] It is a great enterprise extending nationwide. In addition, it is the first joint enterprise in

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Cuba to offer a public service. So far, all the joint enterprises provided other services.

It is the largest enterprise created in Cuba so far, and also largest business in the economic sector. This became clear in the interview by (Reyna) to our commander in chief, when he asked about negotiations with Mexico and the phone service. [end recording]

The reason for the creation of this enterprise was also explained.

[Begin Colas recording] Why we had to create this joint enterprise? Simply—and as the commander stated—because we have the market, a very qualified work force, and a very obsolete technology and communications infrastructure, which needed capital to be improved.

We would have done the investment ourselves, had we had the economic resources. We would have never created a joint enterprise in the telecommunications sector, which is very complex, and is closely linked to the life of our society, from government institutions—party, defense, interior, etc.—to direct service to our people. Yet, we did not have any choice. We could go on letting our obsolete system to continue its visible deterioration, or take this step and create the joint enterprise. [end recording]

Colas stated that the enterprise will begin by restoring service to hospitals, clinics, day care centers, and other social institutions.

Candidate Nominations Begin for Municipal Elections

PA0405212595 Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish 1813 GMT 3 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Havana, 3 May (PL)—Nominations for municipal government candidates in Cuba will begin in the second half of May and will last until 18 June. There will be an increase in the electoral areas (districts).

The Cuban election system establishes that neighbors nominate their candidates in neighborhood meetings. Those elected will constitute municipal governments.

According to GRANMA, the rise of new settlements and permanent groups of workers—that are more numerous than the local inhabitants—among other reasons, requires an increase in the number of councilmen based on the electoral system in force since 1976.

With this in mind, of the more than 14,226 electoral areas, 28 will be voting areas for construction workers, and other groups that work far from their homes.

According to Antonio Hernandez, member of the National Electoral Commission (CEN), the new municipal governments will be sworn in on 30 July.

On 1 April of this year, the Council of State convened regional elections, which are scheduled to take place every two and a half years. The publishing of voting lists began yesterday, and they will remain on display for 30 days, a period during which citizens will review the information for errors, omissions, or incorrect additions.

The elections are scheduled for 9 July and the second round, in those areas where it may be necessary, on 15 July.

New Nuclear Energy Agency Programs Announced

PA0405212995 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 May 95

[Report by Beatriz Padron; from the "Evening Information Review" newscast—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] The new structure of the Science, Technology, and Environment Ministry approved the creation, on a provisional basis, of four agencies managed at the collegiate level. These agencies are: The Cuban Information Science Agency [Agencia Cubana de Informatica], the Cuban Science and Technology Agency [Agencia Cubana de Ciencia y Tecnica], the Cuban Environmental Agency [Agencia Cubana del Medio Ambiente], and the Cuban Nuclear Energy Agency. Let us listen to the latter's Acting President (Luis Joba) talk about it.

[(Joba)] "The main objective of our agency is to achieve greater cooperation and integration in order to fulfill the goals of the entities that constitute the agency. No doubt this is reflected in the strengthening of services in the implementation of nuclear technologies provided by our center, the improvement and development... [pauses] the training of experts in the nuclear field. We are placing special emphasis on post-graduate studies, masters, doctorates, and specialized degrees, for personnel from our organization, and from other organizations in the country that specialize in this field who want or need to improve their training."

One of the main functions of the Cuban Nuclear Energy Agency will be to develop radiological safety services related to radiological monitoring of the environment and individuals, and the disposal of radioactive wastes.

[(Joba)] "With the upcoming inauguration of the isotope center, the country will take on new levels of production, quantity, and quality of marker compounds and radiopharmaceuticals. We will be able to have the proper installations to achieve this. With regard to all matters dealing with applied research in the field of nuclear energy, the centers we have will provide sufficient support for safety tests for the future Juragua nuclear power plant and nuclear safety tests.

"In addition, one of the missions of our nuclear energy information center is to provide general information on nuclear energy: science and technology information, and general information for the public. And now with the

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ministry's cooperation, it is expanding its scope to other engineering fields in general and other areas that may serve the different institutions of the Science, Technology, and Environment Ministry."

Regarding technical cooperation, Cuba is conducting a cooperation program of over $1.2 million with the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] for the current two-year period.

[Joba] "Cooperation between the IAEA and Cuba is very productive. It not only benefits the institutions of our agency and our ministry, but also other institutions of the central administration of the state that are users and beneficiaries of this technical assistance. The cooperation is also seen in the equipment to develop new programs and the training of personnel to apply nuclear technology. Within this framework, we have a major project to evaluate and train personnel, and this benefits many of our country's institutions. A substantial amount of these funds are earmarked for training personnel."

Police Report Drop in Crime in Late '94

PA0305222495 Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish 1324 GMT 2 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Havana, 2 May (PL)—Cuba closed 1994 with a reduction in both minor and major criminal activity, although the major crime indicators remained unchanged or rose with regard to the previous year, a local radio station reported today.

Lieutenant Colonel Javier Salado, a top officer of the National Revolutionary Police (PNR) top command, explained to a newscast that the favorable results in this area were due to better work by law enforcement institutions and agents.

According to the PNR officer, the systematic work of the Unified Vigilance and Protection System (a mechanism created in each neighborhood) and the adoption of legal measures, such as the decriminalization of ownership of foreign currency, in force since 1993 and regarded until then as one of the most frequent minor offenses, contributed to achieve these results.

He noted that minor incidents such as pilfering goods for personal use, minor public disturbances, and illicit economic actitivies, such as sale of products in unauthorized places and without the proper official license, decreased greatly.

Serious offenses experienced a significant drop when compared to the same period last year. Some categories of offenses remained unchanged or rose, Salado stated, making a special reference to theft by force, mostly in homes.

Without providing figures, the source said that the trend in late 1994 showed an increase in theft by force in private homes, which reflects a movement from economic objectives to homes. In many cases the residents were inside their homes at the time of the theft.

Although this manifestation of economic crime dropped, a marked proportion of offenses were classified as serious and evidenced in general terms in the theft and slaughter of cattle, mostly in the interior of the country and on the outskirts of Havana.

Technically classified as crimes against state property, criminal activity against state interests dropped in Havana. But a certain degree of danger was registered on some occasions, a situation to which the PNR is devoting greater attention, time, and effort, Salado remarked.

Official statistics indicate that in Cuba the occurrence of crime is insignificant when compared to other nations where violence grows every day, basically as a result of social, economic, and political problems, the radio report stated.

Western Army Begins Moncada II Exercises

FL0405234595 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 May 95

[Report by correspondent Jorge Luis Martinez; from the "Exclusive" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] On 2 May, the Western Army began the Moncada II 95-1 exercise for commanders and general staff in western Cuba. We interviewed Brigadier General Raul Valle Valdez, Western Army chief of the general staff, on the exercise.

[Martinez] General, what is the significance of this exercise?

[Valle] The commanders' and general staff's exercise is one of the main activities the Army carries out during the year to prepare command and control elements. Provincial, municipal, and defense zone defense councils therefore participate in the exercise. It includes joint operations with Air Force, Navy, Antiaircraft Defense, Revolutionary Air Force, and regular units.

[Martinez] What rating do you think you will get?

[Valle] We believe that a rating of good is already assured. We have been preparing for the defense exercise since the beginning of the year. We have conducted important studies—most importantly those relating to enemy actions—and accumulated experience in the theater of operations worldwide, especially from the recent wars waged by imperialism. We have studied their weaknesses and strengths and have continued to prepare accordingly.

Cuba

Aristide Tour of Mirebalais, Hinche Postponed

PA0305230995 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 3 May 95

[From "The Waking Up Newscast"]

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[FBIS Translated Text] Let us begin this newscast by telling you about the presidential tour scheduled for 1 May, Agriculture and Labor Day, that has been postponed. President Aristide was expected yesterday morning [as heard] in Hinche and Mirebalais. Government delegates in these cities did not provide any explanation of why the tour was postponed. In Mirebalais, members of popular and peasant organizations went home with empty bags after waiting for more than four hours, reliable sources have reported.

St. Lucia

Prime Minister Fires Minister Over UN Scandal

FL0405160895 Bridgetown CANA in English 1427 GMT 4 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Castries, St. Lucia, May 4, CANA—St. Lucia's Prime Minister, John Compton, has sacked his International Financial Services Minister, Rufus Bousquet, as a scandal over United Nations funds took a new twist.

Compton said Wednesday night he had directed the Governor General to relieve the minister of his responsibilities with immediate effect. The move came after Bousquet ignored an order Compton gave his Cabinet not to publicly talk about the scandal over the misuse of more than U.S.100,000 dollars in UN funds earmarked in 1991 for a seminar here, pending the setting up of a Commission of Inquiry.

Bousquet told a news conference Wednesday that "gag orders" were not meant for him and promised to speak out on matters which affected the country.

"In the first place, I decided to speak out because I was not satisfied that enough was being done by government to clear the name of St. Lucia and identify those directly involved in the scam," he told newsmen.

Senior government officials have been implicated in the scandal.

Bousquet, who will remain a member of parliament, on Wednesday suggested that government had lost the right to govern.

"Government is shattered by (the scandal)," he said. "It is the sort of thing that makes governing difficult, and it is really not in the interest of the country for the government to remain in office. [words indistinct]

Dr. Flemming said he had received instructions from officials including the Prime Minister to put the mechanism in place to use the funds earmarked for a conference on the Caribbean.

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Zedillo Speech Marks Labor Day

PA0405215095 Mexico City LA JORNADA in Spanish 2 May 95 p 5

["Stenographic version" of speech by President Ernesto Zedillo at ceremony marking Labor Day, at the theater of the Union of Railway Workers of the Mexican Republic in Mexico City on 1 May]

[FBIS Translated Text] Mr. Fidel Velasquez, outgoing president of the Labor Congress; Mr. Rafael Riva Palacio Pontones, architect and president of the Labor Congress; trade union leaders; and fellow workers:

I am pleased to be sharing with the Labor Congress the commemoration of this date so significant to the working class all over the world.

I thank this pluralist organization, which gathers the majority of the Mexican labor movement, for inviting me. The trade unions gathered in the Labor Congress represent a historical force that has stood out in the construction of a regime of freedoms and institutions. The organization and committed participation of the labor movement have contributed to the establishment and consolidation of a set of institutions that procure security, health, education, and housing for Mexican workers.

The labor movement, and especially the Labor Congress, are today a fundamental pillar for a nation that is struggling to reach the new century as a stronger, fairer, and more prosperous one.

This is why, ever since the first signs of the economic crisis we are facing became apparent, the labor movement has been part of the effort to overcome it. The Labor Congress understood with objectivity and seriousness that the crisis threatened us with financial collapse. That collapse would have meant the loss of millions of jobs and the dashing of our development possibilities for many years.

The Labor Congress and the organized labor movement assumed, with clear vision and patriotism, their role in the effort demanded to overcome the crisis. You were the first to respond to the call for unity to face this economic emergency. You were the first in realizing that the crisis could be controlled only through work, discipline, and savings, and that no one will do what we Mexicans are called to do for ourselves. You also were the first to place Mexican interests above all other interests and specific differences.

To protect jobs since the onset of the crisis, the labor movement adjusted its demands to the national situation and has tried to avoid exacerbating labor conflicts.

The organized labor movement and trade unions present at this ceremony are fulfilling their role in the struggle against the crisis. This is why today I wish to convey the government's profound recognition to the Labor Congress for its solidarity and commitment with the nation's superior interests. I express my personal recognition and gratitude to all of you for reinforcing labor unity and its alliance to the government of the republic, in order to face today's challenges.

The effort to overcome the crisis has demanded the adoption of very tough measures. There are no easy prescriptions or pleasant paths to tackle the problems facing our economy. The course we chose is shorter and will have fewer social costs than other options. Despite the crisis, the government has by no means neglected its social responsibilities.

To match the effort of the labor movement, and to ease the effects of the crisis in the short run, the government has adopted programs and measures to support the workers: It has promoted a fiscal bonus for workers earning between two and four minimum salaries, and it has maintained the bonus for workers earning up to two salaries; it has significantly broadened training programs to help displaced and active workers; it has promoted the inclusion of productivity agreements in collective bargaining agreements; the Social Security Institute has extended from two to six months the health and maternity insurance for temporarily unemployed workers; the Infonavit [Institute of the National Fund for Workers Housing] has made more flexible its policies for clients facing unemployment problems; it has maintained the budget for subsidies on popular consumption products; it has launched a special program to create temporary jobs in cities with the highest unemployment rates and in the poorest rural areas; and it has designed a program to restructure with long terms the loans owed by companies. Debt restructuring will save thousands of small and medium-sized companies and thousands of jobs.

Effort and discipline are producing the first results. The financial and exchange markets have recovered some stability and interest rates are starting to drop. It is true that due to the seriousness of the crisis it will be some time before this progress is reflected in tangible benefits, but the first results of the adjustment program confirm that we have a clear economic course to overcome the emergency, and to achieve the economic growth that Mexico needs.

We want to overcome the crisis so the Mexican economy can resume growth, so it can create the jobs the population demands, and so it can generate the resources that will allow authorities to deal with backwardness and injustice.

The Mexican Government and workers hope this will be the basis of a shared prosperity. Growth will be the best footing to strengthen our sovereignty and defend Mexico's interests in a world that is becoming more and more integrated. Growth will be the force that generates opportunities within the framework of social coexistence governed by the law, and where material progress is the best defense of law and social peace. Growth will be the best footing for healthy political development, without hatred, division or violence; a political development

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based on democracy and bolstered by the participation of all social groups. Growth, above all, will be the source of resources to implement a social policy that is truly capable of combating poverty and seeking honorable living conditions for all. Economic growth will strengthen the historical alliance between the workers movement and the Mexican State.

We want an active, transparent, and committed alliance. Today, before the Labor Congress, I ratify the government's commitment to maintain and strengthen that alliance.

The government is not giving up its labor policy responsibility. That is why we are united by the commitment to respect fully and invariably the liberty to join unions and the autonomy of labor organizations. We are united by the commitment to always recognize the legitimacy of labor unions as a way to organize workers to defend their accomplishments and promote their demands. We are united by the commitment to accept only those transformations that will entail benefits and better opportunities for workers. We are united by the commitment to promote constructive negotiations between workers and employers in order to preserve jobs, compensate efforts and productivity, and promote growth. We are united by the commitment to oversee the preservation of social and labor harmony by reconciling interests and resolving conflicts in the framework of the law, and well as procuring solutions compatible with the rights and accomplishments of workers. We are united by the commitment to guarantee workers and their families a decent home, efficient health and security services, quality education, more training options, and a respected and participatory presence in workers organizations in the country's political life. We are united by the commitment to conceive of and apply a development policy to create more and better jobs, to foment productive investments, to expand the internal market, to revalue work, and to procure a more just remuneration and a more equitable income distribution.

These are the commitments that we share for a Mexico united and dedicated to overcoming the current difficulties, so as to reach growth with justice, growth with equity, growth with fruits for all. These are the commitments that support our alliance of today and tomorrow. These are the commitments that bring us together on this First of May.

Comrades, the Labor Congress and the organized labor movement know that the crisis will only be overcome with unity and effort. Mexico will not come out stronger by increasing or exaggerating conflicts. Mexico will not be more just by taking advantage of economic and social difficulties to defend particular political interests. Mexico will not be more prosperous by adopting radical positions and trying to polarize groups and sectors.

A strong, just, and prosperous Mexico requires that we look up to first overcome the crisis and immediately attain sustained growth! Only growth will allow us to multiply decent and safe jobs and improve wages! Only growth will allow us to perfect the institutions resulting from the drive of the labor movement so we can protect and promote the living conditions of working families!

That is why we stand united today against the crisis and tomorrow for growth and why we will strengthen our alliance!

That is why today against the crisis and tomorrow for growth, the government feels honored and committed by its firm alliance with the labor movement and by the support of the Labor Congress!

Long live Mexican workers!

Long live Mexico..!

Communications Secretary on Privatization Process

PA0405212195 Mexico City REFORMA in Spanish 2 May 95 p 19A

[FBIS Translated Text] Communications and Transport Secretary Carlos Ruiz Sacristan announced that by September of this year privatization of the National Railways of Mexico (Ferronales) will be concluded.

The official said that government strategies to issue concessions in the sector, based on the legal framework for the railroad system recently approved by Congress, will be ready within two months.

He said that in the railroad and telecommunications sector an important flow of investment is expected by the end of the year.

He also mentioned that the government is only waiting for the Chamber of Deputies to approve the Telecommunications Law (already passed by the Senate) as benefits will be drawn from the competition in services such as telephone and cable television.

September will also see the conclusion of a new legal framework for the telecommunications and transportation sector, when many reforms will be recommended to the Law on Communication Routes [Ley de Vias Generales de Comunicacion] and another to regulate airport privatization.

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El Salvador

Calderon Sol Views Rescheduling of Peace Accords

PA0405234295 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1730 GMT 4 May 95

[Report by Rene Alvarenga from the "Sonora Newscast"]

[FBIS Translated Text] On 3 May, the main protagonists of the Salvadoran peace process signed a document rescheduling the peace agreements, which must now be concluded by 30 October 1995 at the latest. President Armando Calderon Sol participated in the signing ceremony and said the country has entered a new phase to execute and comply with the peace agreements.

[Begin Calderon recording] I believe that the work of the United Nations and ONUSAL [UN Observer Mission in El Salvador] has been limitless and fruitful. It has yielded wonderful results in terms of reaching peace in El Salvador. A new phase is beginning now, a phase that has a UN touch and new work plan to fully comply with and execute the agreements. I believe that our country, El Salvador, is taking another step toward the consolidation of the democratic process. I believe that the international community and the friendly countries have aided and helped us reach this wonderful time—this marvelous time in which we can say that the Salvadoran Government, people, and nation have the political resolve to comply with the agreements.

We are living to witness the fruits. The participation of all Salvadoran society is clear. In this regard, and as president of the Republic, I want to thank the United Nations and the friendly nations. I want to say once more that the government has the political resolve to faithfully comply with the agreements, as we have already said, and to comply fully, because this is a commitment the people have made and a commitment the nation has made. We will resolve these few remaining issues as soon as possible. [end recording]

During the signing ceremony, the president also thanked ONUSAL's Dr. Enrique Ter Horst for the work he has done in favor of Salvadoran peace.

[Begin Calderon recording] I want to tell you, Don Enrique, this is the right time to recognize your efforts. I believe you have exerted a great personal effort. You have been monitoring the process and its compliance. I want to express to you our deep recognition, as well as our recognition of all the work conducted by ONUSAL members, despite our difficulties and economic woes. As we have already said: Thank God we did not worry about economic matters. All we thought about was signing the peace agreements, because they could have remained unsigned. The commitments we made were very great indeed. [end recording]

In the opinion of Dr. Calderon Sol, the commitments have been great. As for economic matters, he pointed out that the agreements have demanded many resources, but we will faithfully comply with the agreements. Financial problems should not become a hindrance to the process, the head of state underscored.

Guatemala

Minister, President Cited on Alpirez's Possible Extradition

PA0505013295 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 4 May 95 p 3

[FBIS Translated Text] Guatemalan Foreign Minister Marithza Ruiz de Vielman reports that the government has not received any extradition request for Colonel Julio Alpirez. Vielman admitted that she has spoken with Congressman Torricelli, but she said they did not discuss Alpirez or CIA-related issues.

I spoke with the congressman during the Miami Summit, when both of us met with a textile group. He expressed interest in the peace process, but we did not discuss individual topics or issues that are now being reported by the international press, the foreign minister said.

Vielman said the meeting took place in the presence of U.S. Ambassador Marilyn McAffee, who introduced them to each other.

Meanwhile, President Ramiro De Leon Carpio said that to extradite Col. Alpirez, certain legal requirements would have to be fulfilled, *because he has not yet been prosecuted and, I presume, extradition requests usually follow trials. I still must consult the Foreign Ministry, and therefore, I do not want to express additional views on the issue.*

Meanwhile, Defense Minister General Mario Rene Enriquez Morales said he would not comment on the issue, other that to say *the extradition can be requested, and the government can act in accordance with the legal parameters of the case.*

Enriquez reiterated that he believes that Col. Alpirez is innocent of the charges of which he is accused, and he added that the Army, as an institution, has nothing to do with the legal proceedings against Alpirez and Col. Manuel Garcia Catalan, because the Army *hopes that respect for the law will prevail.*

[Guatemala City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish in its 4 May edition on page 31 publishes a 300-word, unattributed report, adding President De Leon has admitted that, because of the many problems he has had to deal with recently—namely, the CIA case and fiscal reforms—his "image has undergone 'significant' attrition." Nevertheless, he added, his credibility remains unblemished. According to the report, De Leon expressed continued support for the Army, adding that regardless of the outcome, the proceedings against Cols.

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Alpirez and Garcia Catalan will be "positive." He added, "Whether they go free or are sentenced, the results will be positive for the country's and the Army's images."]

Former Defense Minister Admits Army Committed Abuses

PA0405211995 Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 2 May 95 p 4

[Article by Carlos Canteo]

[FBIS Translated Text] Retired General Hector Alejandro Gramajo Morales, who served as defense minister under Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo, admitted yesterday that the two parties committed abuses during the armed confrontation, thus the Army did not have a monopoly on such cases.

The abuse issue has been brought up on various occasions, and it is no major novelty. The fact is that there were some abuses outside the armed struggle, but there were abuses by both parties, thus no one can claim that the Army had a monopoly, he stated.

Gramajo noted that it is no secret to anyone that the guerrillas in Guatemala killed children during attacks, thus if any dirty acts were committed, the armed forces did not have a monopoly on them. Both parties committed irrational acts in the heat of combat or because of the prevailing situation.

One important aspect that must be considered is that the Army only reacts to provocations or attacks, because the insurgency has always provoked confrontations as part of its military strategy.

These abuses, Gramajo added, must be grouped in three important periods: the Lucas Garcia period, the rise of the triumvirate after the 23 March 1982 coup d'etat, and the period after the presidential investiture of Gen. Efrain Rios Montt.

What should be underscored is that there was no institutional policy to commit abuses, because these terrible actions were committed by both parties, so a single party should not be blamed, Gramajo said.

The retired general thinks that period between 23 March 1982 and August of the same year is important, because the coup d'etat created a power vacuum and certain soldiers were involved in isolated actions, but they were not part of an institutional policy.

Gramajo assured that he has no information about the 1982 Rio Negro massacre in Rabinal, Baja Verapaz, but he said that everything coincided with the power vacuum created by the overthrow of Lucas Garcia, because at the time there were many ongoing power struggles and it was not clear who was in command: Rios Montt, Horacio Maldonado, or Francisco Luis Gordillo.

They Seek To Make the Army More Flexible

Gramajo believes that the UN clearly intends to penalize all those who defended the system (Army) and pardon the aggressors (guerrillas) to bring about peace, tranquillity, and reconciliation.

This behavior pattern, he added, has been implemented in Northern Ireland, Spain, and El Salvador, and they are now starting to implement it in Guatemala. This is a result of the new world order, and the United States has nothing to do with it.

The UN, Gramajo noted, seeks to purge the Army before signing a peace agreement, but this purge should be understood as political compensation for the guerrillas, which is why many accusations against the military have surfaced.

They are doing all this to force the Army to be more flexible in the negotiations, to make the insurgency believe that it will do better. That is why I say that they want to encourage the guerrillas at the expense of the Army, he said.

Gramajo believes that the new world order leaves aside concepts such as the nation-state, in which the fatherland, nationalism, and national interests prevail, concepts that are present in the Army, and this poses an obstacle for the consolidation of this new order.

What they are doing here, he said, is putting a truth commission in operation before a peace agreement is signed, although an agreement was reached regarding the Commission for Historical Clarification, and this seeks to hurt the Army and oil the negotiation process.

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Argentina

UCR Leaders Deny Presidential Ticket To Be Dropped

PY0505033895 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2327 GMT 4 May 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Buenos Aires and Rosario, 4 May (TELAM)—Raul Alfonsin [president of the Radical Civic Union—UCR] and Radical presidential candidate Horacio Massaccesi—who shot some darts at Jose Bordon [the presidential hopeful of the Front for a Country in Solidarity—Frepaso]—today, at the same time, flatly denied a report speculating on eventual withdrawal of the UCR's presidential ticket.

From Rosario, where he headed a campaign caravan, Massaccesi attributed the report, which was published today in a Buenos Aires morning newspaper, to the "editorializing of the Bordon camp." The report indicated that Cordoba Province Governor Eduardo Angeloz had made an alleged initiative to "drop" the party ticket.

"That is the editorializing of the Bordon camp; it is Bordon mercantilism published by a newspaper that supports Bordon," the Rio Negro governor said simultaneously with Alfonsin, who also denied the report.

According to the former president, "that report is as false as the public opinion polls that place the UCR ticket in third place."

The newspaper commentary indicated that during a recent meeting, Angeloz presumably told Alfonsin that it is necessary "to drop the ticket because we are sinking."

During a news conference, Alfonsin also denied the readings that predict a "free fall" of the UCR in the 14 May elections, and he stressed that his party is "comfortably" assured of second place.

"According to the estimates that we have, and that come from consultations with the party authorities of the provinces, we are running first in at least seven or eight, and we are a comfortable second in the others," he stressed. [passage omitted]

Treasury Receives $1 Billion From 1988 Argentine Bond

PY0405222595 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1635 GMT 3 May 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 3 May (NA)—The Economy Ministry has reported that today the Treasury received $1 billion for the international sale of the 1998 Argentine Bond.

The money will be deposited at the Fiduciary Capitalization Fund and will be used to assist private banks with liquidity problems following last December's Mexican crisis.

Citibank Vice President William Rhodes confirmed the successful operation and the disbursement of the money on 27 April.

Citibank was responsible for placing the bond on the U.S. market while the Deutsche Bank handled it in Europe.

In the next few hours the World Bank will disburse another $167 million as part of a $500 million loan to capitalize the Fiduciary Fund.

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) is also committed to loan Argentina $500 million. The first part of that loan—$250 million—will be disbursed on 15 May.

The Argentine Bond was also sold on the domestic market. The result was more than $1.2 billion among the country's top companies.

The bond's domestic part was divided in quarterly disbursements. The first installment of $277.7 millions entered the Treasury on 4 April. [passage omitted]

Detained Pakistani Sailors Taken to Buenos Aires

PY0505025195 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2349 GMT 4 May 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 5 May (TELAM)—Court sources have reported that three Pakistani citizens who were detained while taking photographs of the Argentine Zionist Union building in Rosario were in Buenos Aires tonight. They might be called to testify by Judge Juan Jose Galeano.

The sources said the judge, who is hearing the AMIA [Argentine- Israeli Mutual Association] bombing case, has asked prosecutors Jose Barbacchia and Eamon Mullen to determine if it will be necessary to summon them to testify, based on merit.

The foreigners were taken this afternoon to Buenos Aires by three police patrol cars. They were subsequently lodged at a police station.

The three Pakistani citizens, who are part of the complement of the Cypriot ship "Mastrogiorgis B," moored at the port of Rosario, were identified by court sources as Ashique Rehman, Akhat Alim, and Azfal Khan. They range in age from 20 to 30 years.

The merchant ship had remained at a private port until yesterday, loading soybeans into five of its seven holds. [passage omitted]

Police sources indicated yesterday that there is still nothing to establish a connection between the sailors and any terrorist organization. [passage omitted]

Fishing Agreement Proposed to EU

PY0405222995 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2205 GMT 3 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Buenos Aires, 3 may (TELAM)—The Argentine Government will ask the EU to sign a

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cooperation agreement to preserve fishing resources in international waters close to the exclusive economic zones of fishing countries.

A Foreign Ministry source told TELAM today: "Argentina will ask the EU to sign a cooperation agreement to preserve fishing resources in the waters around 201 miles from the coast."

The suggestion will be made during the Second Meeting of the Argentine-EU Fishing Mixed Commission that is scheduled to meet between 4 and 5 May at the Foreign Ministry.

Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella will attend the 4 May meeting that will start at 1130.

One of the main aspects of the Argentine proposal is an agreement to "exchange information on fishing by ships from both parties, or ships from other countries, in the vicinity of the exclusion zone."

The proposal also seeks to promote "common scientific research programs in areas bordering the exclusion zone, to exchange information on fishing methods and areas and times when fishing is forbidden, the characteristic of ships operating in the area, and in general, any information to help enforce the norms established to preserve the biomass."

The source said: "Argentina and the EU could set an example of international cooperation in the area of fishing."

"Europeans fish in Argentine waters and it is natural that they should share the concern for preserving highly migratory fishing species," the source said.

The Foreign Ministry source added that "the Argentine Government cannot guarantee to preserve fishing resources without the cooperation of those who fish in waters close to our exclusive economic zone."

The source said ships fishing in bordering waters caught 500,000 tonnes of fish per year during the past few years, adding that a great number of those ships were European.

"During the last season 43 Spanish ships, two Portuguese, and two Italians, operated in the zone," the source said.

Among the species that are being fished, are the illex squid "which has a high economic value" and other species that are also wanted on the international market.

Bolivia

Government: State of Siege To Help Investments

PY0405223195 La Paz HOY in Spanish 20 Apr 95 pp 8, 9

[FBIS Translated Text] Top Capitalization Ministry officials have said the state of siege implemented by the government on 18 April "will expedite" the process of capitalization and privatization of public companies, adding that their established timetable will not be affected.

Capitalization Minister Alfonso Revollo and Capitalization Secretary Edgar Saravia said the cabinet probably evaluated the situation before enforcing the state of siege.

Saravia said: I do not believe it will affect the capitalization program, because is the most important program of the current administration.

The Capitalization Ministry will maintain the timetable established for the capitalization of ENDE [National Electricity Enterprise], Entel [National Telecommunications Enterprise], and LAB [Lloyd Aereo Boliviano]. The strategic partners for these companies will be chosen before 6 August 1995.

The deadline for purchase proposals is 4 May for ENDE, and 3 May for Entel.

Saravia reported interest by a ninth company in participating in the capitalization of Entel.

Economic Development Minister Jaime Villalobos said that with the state of siege the government confirmed its decision to enforce law, order, and freedom of work which represents an incentive for capital coming into the country.

National and foreign investors who want to invest need an environment of tranquility. The blockades, demonstrations, clashes, and strikes are in no way an incentive for them.

Villalobos explained that investment opportunities will appear during the 90 days of the state of siege if the changes being implemented by the government and the capitalization process are consolidated.

He said there is no problem encouraging mining investors because there are already about 30 foreign companies prospecting in various parts of the country.

The result of their work cannot be seen because they are in the exploration stage and are not linked to the traditional mining of tin or antimony which are no longer competitive due to the technology used in their processing.

The goal of the investors is to find large precious mineral deposits—like the Inti Raymi deposit—but because this type of mining has not been developed in the country, foreign companies must start from scratch.

Finance Minister Fernando Cossio said the state of siege implemented by the government on 18 April will guarantee new investments and the creation of new jobs.

Economic stability is not enough to attract foreign capital, social stability is also required to expedite the growth rate and to implement the changes proposed by the administration.

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Cossio said: "The state of siege will affect the economy but in a favorable way because the basis are being set for the principle of authority, the reestablishment of order, and the necessary conditions for the normal development of activities."

Asked about the latest salary agreement with the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB), Cossio said the government proposal to increase salaries by 7.5 percent across the board and 200 bolivianos on the basic salary still stands.

President Praises Navy for Not Concealing Crimes

PY0505025295 La Paz LA RAZON in Spanish 25 Apr 95 p A2

[FBIS Translated Text] Following the drug trafficking scandal involving some Navy officers who were subsequently discharged, President Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada yesterday praised the institution because it does not conceal crimes but rather punishes them within the framework of the law and the rules.

Citing as an example the purge within the naval institution, the president said: "The institutions do survive when the cancer that affects them is removed in due time. This is a lesson for all, and I want to thank the naval force for its attitude, its expeditiousness, and its unequivocal clarity in this struggle."

The Navy had discharged five officers and five civilians working under contract who were involved in drug trafficking activity under the leadership of former Frigate Captain Oswaldo Justiniano Vaca, according to a report, dated 18 January 1995, released by the commander general of the Bolivian Naval Force.

Present at the ceremony marking the 32d anniversary of the founding of the Bolivian naval force, which was presided over by the president of the Republic, were the vice president, ministers of state, the diplomatic corps, and special guests.

Concerning the role of the naval force, Sanchez de Lozada said "it can and will be the driving force of the country's development." He then stressed its contribution in the antidrug fight through the "Blue Devils" unit.

The Bolivian Shipping Line (Enabol), the Merchant Marine, the Naval Hydrography Service, Transnaval [expansion unknown], and the National Harbor Masters Board are considered the strategic pillars for the implementation of various projects to benefit the country.

"You are the pillars, the foundation, of the legal system, of the law, and of democracy. I am proud and very happy to congratulate you on this occasion," the president said. He added that the naval force reflects the right of our maritime demand.

Navy Commander Admiral Remberto Barrios also said that in accordance with the prestige and honor of the institution—following a pre-trial inquest, and upon confirming that some of its members had been involved in drug trafficking—the Navy discharged an admiral, three frigate captains, a Navy lieutenant, and five noncommissioned officers.

During a speech delivered yesterday, the Navy commander said: "The Navy, burdened by this regrettable event, reaffirms its intention to expel from the institution those who may be involved in criminal actions that could undermine military honor. It promises to make all possible efforts to help in the investigations to identify those who have taken advantage of their posts and ranks to commit crimes against mankind, such as drug trafficking."

Polls Evaluate Sanchez de Lozada Administration

PY0505033995

[FBIS Editorial Report] La Paz HOY in Spanish on 23 April publishes, on pages 8 and 9, an unattributed 500-word article on polls conducted to find out how the people view the government of President Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada.

According to a poll conducted by the Bolivian Catholic University, before the state of siege was enforced, Sanchez de Lozada had 59 percent of the people's trust. The poll also indicates, somewhat paradoxically, that the cabinet ministers' popularity dropped, while the MNR [Nationalist Revolutionary Movement] maintained its normal rating.

According to a poll conducted in December 1994, "Sanchez de Lozada is supported by 51 percent of those queried and mistrusted by 40 percent. In a recent poll held among 394 individuals on 8 April in La Paz, Sanchez de Lozada had an approval rating of 56 percent and was discredited by 26.1 percent."

According to the December poll, 18.1 percent did not trust the ministers, but the April poll shows this figure has risen to 43.9 percent. According to the poll, "Human Development Minister Enrique Ipina Melgar has the lowest popularity, with 15 percent mistrusting him. He is followed by controversial Government Minister Carlos Sanchez Berzain, with 10 percent; Foreign Minister Antonio Aranibar, with 3.6 percent, and the remaining ministers, with figures ranging from 3 to 2.5 percent mistrusting them." Last December, the MNR had an approval rating of 23 percent; in April, that figure dropped to 22.1 percent. The members of the government coalition, the Free Bolivia Movement, dropped from 18.1 percent last December to 9.4 percent in April, and the Tupac Katari Revolutionary Movement of Liberation is holding between 3 and 2.5 percent.

Also, of the 394 individuals questioned in the poll, 44.4 percent believe the political situation has not changed between the governments of Sanchez de Lozada and

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Jaime Paz Zamora, 41.4 percent believe the political situation improved, and only 5.6 percent believe the political situation is worse.

Regarding the economic situation, 44.4 percent believe it improved, 37.1 percent believe it has not changed, and 9.1 percent think it is worse. Regarding the social situation, 53.6 percent believe the situation has not changed, 32.2 percent believe it is better, and 9.6 percent find it worse. Also, 24.9 percent believe Sanchez de Lozada is more effective against corruption.

Regarding drug enforcement, the poll shows that 26.1 percent of the people give the government a grade of 4, 24.9 percent give it a grade of 5, 12.4 percent a grade of 2, 11.7 percent a grade of 6, 10 percent a grade of 3, 7.9 percent a grade of 1, and 1.8 percent a grade of 7.

Brazil

Ex-Alcatel Director Admits Paying Bribes for Sivam

PY0505033595 Sao Paulo AGENCIA ESTADO in Portuguese 2216 GMT 4 May 95

[Report by Mara Bergamaschi]

[FBIS Translated Text] Brasilia, 4 May (AE)—Despite the government efforts to put an end to the Amazon Region Surveillance System (SIVAM) scandal, it continues with new developments in Congress. On 9 May, the subcommittee created to investigate the SIVAM by the Control Committee of the Chamber of Deputies must decide whether to summon Alcatel Director General Francois de Laage de Meux to testify. Yesterday, Meux met with Communications Minister Sergio Motta during a private audience.

The executive from Alcatel, one of the French companies that vied with the U.S. firm Raytheon for the billion-dollar contract to supply radars, admitted to this week's issue of VEJA magazine the payment of "commissions to middlemen" during the SIVAM bid. Now, the deputies want explanations about the statements made by Meux. Deputy Arlindo Chinaglia (PT-SP) [Workers Party-Sao Paulo] today presented a petition before the committee to summon Meux to testify. The French businessman again accused the U.S. Government of using the CIA to guarantee that the $1.4 billion contract went to Raytheon.

General: Sivam Project Not To Meet Objectives

PY0505040195 Sao Paulo AGENCIA ESTADO in Portuguese 2214 GMT 4 May 95

[Report by Mara Bergamaschi]

[FBIS Translated Text] Brasilia, 4 May (AE)—The Control Committee of the Chamber of Deputies today listened to the statements of General Thaumaturgo Sotero Vaz, retired, former Amazon Military Command chief of staff. Sotero Vaz, who for 17 years worked in the Amazon region, reasserted his conviction that the Amazon Region Surveillance System (SIVAM) will be incapable of meeting the objectives for which it was created. "Drug trafficking, illegal mining, and deforestation cannot be combated with radars, but with government policies that currently do not exist for the Amazon region," the general said.

According to him, the SIVAM project "is a total inversion of priorities." Sotero Vaz queried critically: "Airplanes with sensors will overfly a certain area 24 hours a day to prevent the clandestine flights of drug traffickers and illegal gold miners?" "And the radars to be installed on trucks—on what roads will they travel?" The general defended the application of the funds meant for the SIVAM in programs that are already under way in the region and conducted by state governments, the Armed Forces, the Ibama [Brazilian Institute for the Environment], and the Federal Police.

Sotero Vaz also wants the suspension of the contract that must be signed by the government with Raytheon and with ESCA [Automation and Control Systems Engineering], which is accused of defrauding the National Social Security Institute, INSS. "ESCA is not qualified, and its debt with the INSS did not prevent it from participating in the bid because its board of directors, which includes retired Air Force officers, is close to the Aeronautics Ministry," he said. The statements made by Sotero Vaz were supported by most of the deputies who were present at the committee session.

Commentator Views U.S., Brazilian Position on Sivam

PY0405222795 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 May 95 Section p 3

[Commentary by Jose Altino Machado: "A Chinese Business in Brazil"]

[FBIS Translated Text] It is difficult to understand Brazilians; at least outstanding Brazilians who become national leaders. I have lived for a long time in the Amazonas region, and I have always heard the government and the public referring to the vulnerability of the Amazon region, the lack of control, and even the government's total absence from the region. We have also become accustomed to hearing that the Amazon region is managed—badly—by the police.

Now there is a threat to abort a sophisticated system, imported from the First World, to control and watch over the Amazon region—the way it should be—and, who knows, maybe to get to understand it. The business has an ambitious name: Sivam—Amazon Region Surveillance System. Even though the entire country wants it, there are elected people opposing it? Holy Brazilian inconsistency!

To avoid attributing this resistance to an unlikely national weakness, the only thing we can think of is the

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extreme difficulty of our military men trying to explain (they are not used to doing it) to a democratic society the real objectives of the project; in addition to—I believe—explaining the minor problems of competitors, of project implementation, and of cost.

Because of its features, it is obvious the project should be designed, negotiated, and operated by a civilian society, but since civilian society is disorganized, Sivam ended up in military hands.

While the French fight with the Americans, Brazilians do the same among themselves, talking nonsense like "the contract of the century," while one of the involved enterprises is charged with defrauding the INSS [National Social Security Institute]. In other words, there is confusion and the risk of fully aborting something that is highly necessary. This also happened with the Calha Norte, Our Nature, Pmaci [expansion unknown] 1, Claqs [expansion unknown], and other projects. Good intentions that no one understood. A lot of money was spent, but they all failed.

One thing is true: the North Americans and other nations are afraid that, rather than a victim of devastation, the Amazon region may become a big, uncontrollable Colombia. This is why for 15 years we have heard rumors within the government—and a government rumor is an official rumor—that the United States would furnish us with a free, efficient, full surveillance system. Free. Our side of the deal: A constant, relentless fight against drug trafficking, which takes cocaine to the not too innocent North Americans.

The curious thing, however, is that smart Brazilians, who have always laughed at the foolishness of foreigners, have suddenly received a free lesson of intelligence and international relations, but have not noticed it.

We do need Sivam: Of course! But the North Americans need it more than we do. Did they not make us pay for the project that they were going to give us, pushing the French away, installing a network that covers half the Brazilian territory, and making things in such a way that our government and people believe they did us a great favor? How expensive is, and will be, the candy that Bill Clinton offered to our Fernando Henrique Cardoso in the "States!"

As vital as it is for national security, air traffic, and honest Brazilians, Sivam is mainly aimed at repressing illegal activities. The truth is quite different from the foolishness of a Brazilian Air Force Brigadier, in a recent "Globo Reporter" [a REDE GLOBO television feature], about mineral prospecting activities.

Taking advantage of our refined expertise, those who are more strongly interested in Sivam do not disseminate such information. They also use the arrogant innocence of our justice minister, making him speak for the sake of wild nationalism, defending sovereignty over police anti-drug operations in Latin America.

If regarded in retrospect, all major drug seizures and arrest of traffickers in Brazil originate from information from the famous U.S. DEA. Meanwhile, the gringos lock their coffers and laugh.

With or without Sivam, we will always work with them and for them. Incidentally, the United States already has a global surveillance system called Norad. The Pentagon, however, does not permit its use for political purposes—only for strategic objectives toward world domination. It is what they did at the Malvinas Islands and at the Persian Gulf: they merely swung their satellites, and the Argentines and the Iraqis were blown up.

In conclusion, if Brazil were to operate and control Sivam like an expensive computer game, we will end up counting planes, because we cannot build interception bases all over the Amazon region. If we were to listen to the stubborn remarks of Justice Minister Nelson Jobim, and if we do not ask for U.S. help for entering into action, the Sivam radars will remain full of stars. And that will be that.

Planning and implementation of a program to intercept and repress illegal activities in the Amazon region demands an investment equal or higher than the Sivam budget, because it will have to be permanent, and will never end.

It is not just by chance that Brazil is too poor to be the owner of the Amazon region. Let us admit it. If Cardoso maintains the project and if he "knows what he is talking about," we will win a good and rich partner. Furthermore, we will please this partner. There stands the lesson of the Arabs: They never worked or drilled a well in their lives, yet today they are the owners of the world petroleum supply. In the end, $1.4 billion is enough that no lobby should find any discrepancies.

Cardoso Views PPR Support, Approval of Amendments

PY0405193395 Sao Paulo AGENCIA ESTADO in Portuguese 1613 GMT 4 May 95

[Report by Claudia Carneiro]

[FBIS Translated Text] Brasilia, 4 May (AE)—President Fernando Henrique Cardoso, encouraged by the administration's victory in Congress with the approval of its first constitutional amendment, stated that "the vote confirmed the nation's will." The president said that "the nation is aware that the time to change has come," and the amendments "have been proposed in good faith and reflect the people's interests so well that there was practically no opposition." According to Cardoso "the attitude against the reform is gone; everyone voted for it."

The president uttered these remarks a short while ago after the Progressive Renewal Party, PPR, officially conveyed its support for the administration. The president said that this support is prompted by common

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objectives. He added: "It is not just a question of asking for votes, but also for cooperation." Cardoso promised to resolve the problems that plague agriculture, one of the main concerns of his new ally. "This administration shares the concerns of the farmers," he stated.

Cardoso Pays Heed To PFL Allies, Speeds Up Privatizations

PY0405225895 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 May 95 Section 1 p 5

[Article by Marta Salomon]

[FBIS Translated Text] President Fernando Henrique Cardoso has paid heed to the pressures of his PFL [Liberal Front Party] allies, speeding up the pace of the state-owned enterprises sales program.

Luncheons and telephone conversations between top PFL leaders and Planning Minister Jose Serra and FHC [Fernando Henrique Cardoso] preceded both the announcement made a few days ago that four other state-owned enterprises from the electric sector would be privatized and the government's support for the sale of telephone companies.

During a luncheon organized on 26 April by PFL economic expert Paulo Guedes for the PFL leadership, PFL President Jorge Bornhausen hailed: "Now the government is no longer diffident."

Championing the "maximum" privatization slogan, the PFL leadership decided to launch an offensive against the stagnation of the FHC administration's privatization program.

Since FHC's inauguration four months ago, not a single state-owned enterprise has been sold. According to the new official timetable, the list of privatizations left by the government of [former President] Itamar Franco will only be implemented in June, with the Escelsa (Espirito Santo Power Plants, Inc.) auction.

Even if he manages to sell Escelsa, the Light company, the Meridional Bank, and stock from 14 petrochemical enterprises, Serra already has admitted that, after selling the state-owned enterprises, the government would not realize the figure of 4.7 billion reals included in the 1995 budget.

Six days before his official inauguration as National Privatization Committee head (replacing Civilian Household Chief Clovis Carvalho), Serra discussed—during a luncheon for three—the privatization program's course with Bornhausen and Chamber of Deputies President Luis Eduardo Magalhaes.

Serra agreed that the pace was slow even for implementing the list of privatizations received from the government of Itamar Franco. He said he had been receiving pressure from Rio Grande do Sul politicians who wanted to prevent the Meridional Bank sale. Serra pledged to resist pressures and implement a "strong pace" for privatizations.

Signs Privatization Decree for Power Companies

PY0505125495 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 5 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Brazilian President Fernando Henrique Cardoso has signed a decree including Eletrobras [Brazilian Electric Power Company Inc.], Furnas [Furnas Electric Power Plants], Eletronorte [Northern Brazilian Electric Powerplants], Eletrosul [Southern Electric Power Plants], and the Sao Francisco Hydroelectric Company in the privatization program.

A working group made up of experts from the Mines and Energy, Finance, and Planning Ministries will propose the privatization method to the National Privatization Council within 60 days.

After the privatization of power generation, Eletrobras will not disappear, but will remain as a supervising entity.

Cardoso Decrees Striking Workers May Not Be Paid

PY0405175695 Sao Paulo AGENCIA ESTADO in Portuguese 1342 GMT 4 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Brasilia, 4 May (AE)—The DIARIO OFICIAL today published a presidential decree stating that the working days missed by federal public servants because of the strikes may not be compensated for in any way, or taken into account for length-of-service purposes or for any other benefits. President Fernando Henrique Cardoso signed the decree after public servants in various sectors launched a strike on 3 May. According to the Sole Workers Center, 240,000 public servants—including oil workers, electric power company workers, telephone company workers, social security and health employees, and university workers—are on strike. The decree also states that any public worker's immediate supervisor who fails to comply with the terms of the degree may be dismissed. The president also ordered that the strikers be clocked out.

Cardoso Departs for Great Britain

PY0505125095 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 5 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The main issue on Brazilian President Fernando Henrique Cardoso's agenda with UK Prime Minister John Major will be how to prevent financial crises from jeopardizing the economies of poor countries, as happened to Mexico.

The Brazilian president and his wife left for London late in the evening of 4 May. He will meet with John Major and other heads of government in London. Cardoso will

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also attend the ceremonies marking the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II.

Presidential spokesman Sergio Amaral explained that in the course of his meetings with John Major and other chiefs of state and government on 5, 6, and 7 May, President Cardoso will talk about the need to set up, together with the IMF, new mechanisms for preventing international monetary crises from jeopardizing the economies of certain countries, as happened to Mexico.

President Fernando Henrique Cardoso will return to Brazil at 0600 local time on 8 May. He will land at the Galeao Air Force Base in Rio de Janeiro, and will remain in that city to participate in ceremonies marking Victory Day, after which he will go to Brasilia.

PMDB To Continue To Back Cardoso Administration

PY0405193195 Sao Paulo AGENCIA ESTADO in Portuguese 1821 GMT 4 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Brasilia, 4 May (AE)—The PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party] bloc in the Chamber of Deputies met on 4 May and decided to continue to back the administration. The bloc also approved a motion to vindicate PMDB President Luiz Henrique in view of the criticisms uttered by the PMDB leader in the Senate, Jader Barbalho. Deputies Simara Ellery (BA) [Bahia State] and Luis Roberto Ponte (RS) [Rio Grande do Sul State] submitted this motion verbally.

The document urging the party to break off with the administration, signed by the pro-Quercia faction—Jose Pinotti (SP) [Sao Paulo] and Paes de Andrade (CE) [Ceara]—was read at the meeting but was defeated. The PMDB decided to continue to back the administration on the grounds that it has influence over government policy, given that some of its proposals have been approved, such as the curbing of provisional measures, the breakup of the piped gas monopoly, and the minimum wage increase.

Survey Shows Support for Cardoso Administration

PY0405151995 Sao Paulo AGENCIA ESTADO in Portuguese 1332 GMT 4 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Sao Paulo, 4 May (AE)—The scientist Bolivar Lamounier has conducted a survey, financed by the bank Bamerindus do Brasil, Inc., showing that most congressmen view the performance of Fernando Henrique Cardoso's administration as either average or good. Of those interviewed, 40 percent said Cardoso's administration was average; 38 percent believe it is good; while only 4 percent said it was excellent. Meanwhile, 9 percent of congressmen believe that the administration is bad, and 4 percent see it as very bad.

Opposition 'Has Nothing To Say' on Economic Amendments

PY0405155895 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 30 Apr 95 p 4

[Article by Denise Rothenburg]

[FBIS Translated Text] Brasilia—President Fernando Henrique Cardoso has checkmated the opposition by seeking a vote only on the sustainability of the social security amendment, and leaving the discussion of the amendment's merits for the second half of the year. A number of deputies from different parties believe that the opposition has nothing to say and no options to offer regarding the economic amendments currently in the limelight. When these amendments—like the one allowing private companies to distribute piped gas—started coming up for a vote last week, the opposition lost the momentum it had during the debate on the social security amendment.

Senator Roberto Freire (PPS-PE) [Popular Socialist Party, Pernambuco] said: "The thing is that the opposition is not arguing against the merit of the amendment, it is just flatly opposing it, that is all. Flat opposition does not offer any options; it leads to stagnation. We are not getting anywhere."

So far, no opposition party has come up with alternatives to the economic amendments that the administration has submitted to Congress. The PDT [Democratic Labor Party], the PT [Workers Party], and the PC do B [Communist Party of Brazil] have been implementing the very same strategy they used during the constitutional revision: doing everything possible to prevent an assessment of opinions. This gives the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party], the PFL [Liberal Front Party], the PSDB [Brazilian Social Democracy Party], the PPR [Progressive Renewal Party], and other parties willing to negotiate the amendments a free hand.

The instructions of the PT national leadership are to uphold the text of the Constitution without discussing the merits of the administration's amendments. During a PT meeting in Sao Paulo, Deputy Jose Genoino was severely criticized because he met with Freire to discuss the amendments. Some PT leaders sarcastically called Freire "the government's 16th leader" in Congress. Genoino rejected the criticism.

He said: "The PT is missing the opportunity to start a national debate on the administration's proposals and to offer options. It would be more productive to launch a national debate on what the country really needs, rather than engage in a pointless wrestling match."

Deputy Miro Teijeira (RJ) [Rio de Janeiro], the PDT leader in the Chamber of Deputies, has a different opinion. He feels that the administration has not supplied any information that could justify opening up telecommunications or oil exploitation to private entrepreneurs.

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"We are not upholding the Constitution as it is for no good reason. Developed countries tend to keep activities such as telecommunications and oil exploitation in the hands of the state, while here the administration wants to do the opposite. We will see when the time comes for the plenary vote. That is where we will win," Teijeira said.

Congress Committee Approves Opening Government Oil Monopoly

PY0505031095 Sao Paulo AGENCIA ESTADO in Portuguese 2229 GMT 4 May 95

[Report by Marcos Magalhaes]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Brasilia, 4 May—The proposal to open the government oil monopoly passed its first test: It was approved today by the special committee in the Chamber of Deputies, by 23 votes to 7. This is an alternate bill by Deputy Lima Netto (PFL-RJ) [Liberal Front Party-Rio de Janeiro] that allows the federal government to contract private and public companies for research, exploitation, refinery services, transportation, and inporting and exporting of oil

The bill must now be decided upon by the Chamber of Deputies plenary, in which it must be approved by three-fifths of the congressmen in two voting sessions and then by the Senate. The bill, however, must be voted on by the end of the month. Before this, the government leaders in Congress intend to have less controversial proposals approved in the lower house. Such is the case with the redefinition of the concept of the Brazilian company, the opening of domestic maritime navigation, and the breaking of the government telecommunications monopoly.

"The approval of the first economic opening amendments by the special committees demonstrates a trend that will be followed by the Chamber of Deputies plenary," said Deputy Luiz Carlos Santos (PMDB-SP) [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party-Sao Paulo] late this afternoon. Early in the afternoon, the amendment already had a wide advantage, just as in the former voting sessions on the government amendments in the committees. [passage omitted]

Lawmakers Seek Breakup of Telecommunications Monopoly

PY0405151895 Sao Paulo AGENCIA ESTADO in Portuguese 2256 GMT 3 May 95

[Report by Claudia Carneiro]

[FBIS Translated Text] Lawmakers from various parties want to speed up the breakup of the state's telecommunications monopoly. They have thus launched a congressional front aimed at gaining the upper hand as far as proposing bills to regulate this activity is concerned. At its first meeting on 3 May the Congressional Front for the Easing of the Telecommunications Monopoly issued a communique supporting the administration's proposal. The leaders of the PFL [Liberal Front Party], the PSDB [Brazilian Social Democracy Party], the PPR [Progressive Renewal Party], the PP [Popular Party], the PL [Liberal Party], and approximately 300 deputies and senators signed the communique.

The front's initial target is to co-opt as many lawmakers as possible to make sure that the constitutional amendment breaking the telecommunications monopoly gets approved. The front's coordinator, Deputy Beto Mansur (PPR-SP) [PPR Sao Paulo] believes that Deputy Geddel Vieira Lima's (PMDB-BA) [PMDB Bahia] variant of the administration's amendment will be voted on within 60 days. Between now and then, the allied congressional blocs will appoint state coordinators who will try to win over lawmakers who oppose the amendment.

Once the front makes sure that the administration's bill will be approved by Congress, it wants to take the initiative concerning the bills that will regulate telecommunications. Mansur said: "We cannot allow the executive branch to decide on such an important issue all by itself." According to Mansur, Congress must draw up specific laws for each case, just as there is a specific law for cable television. "We will review the existing laws and draw up a clear-cut telecommunications policy," Mansur said.

The lawmakers who have joined the front believe that Geddel Vieira Lima's variant ties the granting of telecommunications franchises to the approval of specific laws for this activity. Vieira Lima's variant of the administration's amendment proposes that telecommunications be regulated by law within one year after the amendment is promulgated.

Labor Movement Restructured Over Reforms

PY0505041095 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 May 95 Section 1 p 6

[Article by Cristiane Perini Lucchesi]

[FBIS Translated Text] The labor movement is going through a time of redefinitions. The debate on constitutional reforms today is a dividing line that is provoking big storms.

While some unions are leaving, others are seeking to join labor centrals. There are even plans for creating a new central.

The Labor Force, for example, is going through a crisis, with an imminent fissure.

Since its last congress in 1993, the debate on the oil and telecommunications monopolies have produced dissatisfaction.

At that time, in order to reconcile the differences, the decision to give "flexibility" to monopolies was approved.

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Today, Labor Force President Luiz Antonio de Medeiros and Sao Paulo Metalworkers Union President Paulo Pereira da Silva—who is a member of the Labor Force executive baord—are explicitly defending privatization of the petroleum and telecommunications sectors.

Consequently, the Sao Paulo telephone workers' union, which defends the monopoly, believes that a split with the central is inevitable.

At the Guarulhos and Osasco metalworkers unions, there are leaders who are unhappy with the Labor Force, of which they are members.

Guarulhos Union President Francisco Cardoso Filho defends the monopoly in the two sectors. He may become a member of a new central that is being created by CAT (Independent Workers' Coordinating Board), of which he is the director.

The charges pressed by former Medeiros adviser Wagner Cinchetto have aggravated the crisis with the Labor Force. Cinchetto reported a parallel scheme set up by Medeiros to raise money from entrepreneurs.

"If the charges are not cleared up, everybody—myself included—will leave," says Jose Avelino Pereira, aka Chinelo, of the Labor Force executive board.

Enilson Simoes de Moura, aka Alemao, the Labor Force secretary general, and Lucio Bellentani, who is also a member of the Labor Force executive board, are dissatisfied.

"Decision-making cannot remain in the hands of just one sector within the Labor Force executive board," Bellentani said.

Alemao said that in the congress in 1996, he does not want to continue in the post of secretary general. "I am no longer committed to that type of union activity."

Paulinho replied: "The executive board people who are complaining have lost their representativity, and they will hardly be reelected to the executive board, which no longer will be filled on the basis of friendship ties."

The CUT [Sole Workers Center] has taken advantage of the situation to negotiate with dissatisfied Labor Force members. "I know Chinelo and Bellentani, who are very respectable. I have not yet had any personal contact with Alemao," said CUT President Vicente Paulo da Silva, aka Vicentinho.

The CUT supports the petroleum and telecommunications monopoly and is planning a strike in those sectors for 3 May.

Yet contrary to what occurred in 1994, rather than being plainly "against" the reforms, the CUT has proposals for them. This position has allowed the CUT to win allies in broad sectors.

The average membership rate is of 15 unions per month, without "deserters." Contag [National Confederation of Farmworkers], with 3,200 rural unions, has just decided to join the CUT.

"Radical groups have prevented Labor Force unions from joining the CUT," Cinchetto said.

Yet the movements that are closer to the left than Vicentinho's Union Coordinating Board today have little influence within the CUT.

For example, in an executive board meeting this week, Vicentinho will advocate the CUT's entry into an interministerial government group to design a joint proposal for the Social Security area.

Jose Maria, president of the PSTU (Unified Socialist Workers Party, formerly known as Socialist Convergence) and a member of the CUT executive board, believes that this should be done only if the government withdraws its proposal from Congress.

Yet Vicentinho is expected to have his proposal approved by the CUT executive board.

And who would have imagined that today, rather than the Labor Force, it would be the CUT which, together with FIESP (Sao Paulo State Federation of Industries), should take to President Cardoso a document endorsing the tax, fiscal, and labor-management relations reforms?

Of all the labor centrals, the Central Federation of Workers [CGT] is the only one that endorses the union tax—a compulsory tax paid to unions—equivalent to one day of work per year.

"The union tax is an achievement of workers," says CGT President Antonio Neto.

He favors maintaining labor-management relations the way they are now, claiming that CLT [Consolidated Labor Laws], "when applied to the northeastern region, is revolutionary."

The positions by Neto have attracted allies to the CGT. He said that approximately 16 confederations are working and discussing with the central.

The law sets forth that confederations are entitled to 5 percent of union tax revenues.

In the three other methods for raising union funds—through confederations, assistance, or membership—the money should not be compulsorily transferred to confederations.

Yet the fissure within the MR-8 (8 October Revolutionary Movement, a group that joined the armed struggle), which today is a member of Neto's CGT, has weakened the central.

Says Vicentinho: "Members of several northeastern region unions linked with the CGT have come to talk to me."

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The other CGT (confederation), which is headed by Antonio Francisco, aka Chicao, is also getting close to the CUT.

Like the CUT and the Labor Force, the CGT wants to end the union tax. "We prefer the confederation method, which should be approved in an assembly," Chicao said.

The CGT is against "wild privatization," but agrees to "negotiated flexibility" in the petroleum and telecommunications sectors.

Less known labor centrals, like the USI (Independent Trade Union) and the CSTI (Labor Union Central) are also divided over the petroleum and telecommunications monopolies.

"We are studying the subject, but I am for privatization," USI President Antonio Pereira Magaldi has said.

The position of CSTI President Daniel Caldeira is very close to that of the CUT: he defends the monopolies.

Caldeira endorses continuation of the seniority retirement system.

LABOR CENTRALS

Name	**Sole Workers Center - CUT**
Date of Foundation	**August 1983**
Parties and Movements	Union Coordinating Board (majority faction; the PT [Workers Party] is the majority party, but the CUT also has among its members the PDT [Democratic Labor Party], the PSDB [Brazilian Social Democracy Party] and the PSB [Brazilian Socialist Party], Classist Union Movement (PC do B) Communist Party of Brazil], CUT Grass Roots, Socialist Work and Force (PT movements), Union Unity (PPS) [Popular Socialist Party], Unity and Struggle (PCB) [Brazilian Communist Party], and PSTU [Unified Socialist Workers Party] (old Socialist Convergence)
Number of Unions	2,256
Major Unions	Sao Paulo Industrial Belt Metalworkers Union, Sao Paulo Bank Employees Union, Association of Sao Paulo State Teachers International Membership, CIOSL (International Confederation of Free Union Organizations), social democratic.
Name	Labor Force
Date of Foundation	March 1991
Parties and Movements	PDT, PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party], PSDB, PTB [Brazilian Labor Party], PP [Popular Party]
Number of Unions	978
Major Unions	Sao Paulo Metalworkers Union, Sao Paulo Commercial Sector Employees Union, Sao Paulo Textile Industry Workers Union
International Membership	CIOSL
Name	General Workers Confederation - CGT
Date of Foundation	April 1986
Parties and Movements	PMDB, PDT, PSDB, PT
Number of Unions	528
Major Unions	Railway Worker Unions of Sao Paulo, of the Sorocabana Zone, and of the Mogiana Zone
International Membership	CIOSL
Name	Central Federation of Workers - CGT
Date of Foundation	March 1986
Parties and Movements	MR-8 (participated in the armed strugle and today belongs to the PMDB), a split from the MR-8 of the northeastern region, PDT, PSDB, PCR [expansion unknown], PMDB
Number of Unions	811 (did not send list of members to FOLHA)
Major Unions	Sao Paulo Data Processing Workers Union, Campo Grande Civil Construction Workers Union, Espirito Santo Highway Workers Union
International Membership	FSM (World Union Federation), whose members are most of the centrals linked with the communist parties that are still alive, among others
Name	Labor Union Central - CSTI
Date of Foundation	March 1994
Parties and Movements	PMDB, PSDB, PT
Number of Unions	623 (did not send list of members to FOLHA)

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LABOR CENTRALS (Continued)	
Name	**Sole Workers Center - CUT**
Date of Foundation	**August 1983**
Major Unions	Bus Drivers Union of Sao Jose do Rio Preto (Sao Paulo), of Uberlandia (Minas Gerais), and Carceres (Mato Grosso)
International Membership	Clat (Latin American Labor Federation) - Christian Democratic
Name	Independent Trade Union - USI
Date of Foundation	July 1985
Parties and Movements	PSD [Democratic Social Party], PMDB, and PTB
Number of Unions	None—26 federations and 2 confederations
Major unions	Federation of Commercial Sector Workers of Rio de Janeiro, Pernambuco, and Bahia
International Membership	None

Article Profiles Extreme Leftist Organizations

PY0505142095 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 30 Apr 95 Section 1 p 16

[Article by Carlos Eduardo Alves]

[FBIS Translated Text] Over 20 extreme leftist parties and groups that are not represented in Congress, and which do not enjoy much public support, are still holding on to dogmas such as the dictatorship of the proletariat and the class struggle.

The Brazilian extreme left ranges from a strange mix of Trotskyites and Stalinists in one party, to another party based in Ceara that is trying to invent a "post-modern communism."

It is estimated that together the militants of extreme leftist parties (legal or not) who do not belong to the PT [Workers Party] or the PC do B [Communist Party of Brazil] do not add up to 10,000.

As a rule, these parties believe that the PT will not fulfill its "revolutionary" role because it has become an appendage of Brazilian social democracy. They also believe that the fall of socialism in Eastern Europe did not imply the funeral of Marxism-Leninism.

That is all they agree upon. Extreme left-wing parties are squabbling to see which one of them will lead the others in the building of the "revolutionary party," which is another common obsession.

In fact, their unwavering faith in the victory of "revolution" epitomized by Marxism-Leninism—despite the lack of any sign that it could take place—has turned many of these groups into sects whose militants are committed to a cause that offers no short-term prospects for reward.

In Brazil's extreme left one can find just about anything. There are parties like the PSTU (United Socialist Workers Party) [Partido Socialista dos Trabalhadores Unificado], and the PRO (Party for the Workers Revolution) [Partido da Revolucion Operaria], which are trying to obtain legal status. There are others like the Red Wing [Ala Vermelha] and the Trend for the Revolutionary Workers Party [Tendencia pelo Partido Operario Revolucionario] (TPOR), which prefer underground politics.

"We cannot reveal the number of militants we have for security reasons," claims TPOR leader Erson Martins de Oliveira, who has no more than 20 followers.

What is the Revolutionary Left, and What Does it Want?

The PSTU is made up of Trotskyites from the Socialist Convergence, Stalinists from the PCB [Brazilian Communist Party], and regional "revolutionary" movements. The party wants to organize the workers' struggle and then stage a socialist revolution.

The Workers Cause is made up of Trotskyite dissidents both in Brazil and abroad, who originally belonged to the "Labor" group (which is part of the PT). This party wants to build a workers party and seize power on behalf of the workers.

The PRO is made up of Stalinist dissidents from the PC do B who later served in the PRC [Communist Revolutionary Party] and the PT. They want to resurrect revolutionary Marxism and advocate switching from representative democracy to direct democracy.

The MR-8 (8 October Revolutionary Movement) is made up of PCB dissidents. They propose fighting for the nation's freedom and moving toward socialism.

The PCB is a leftist group that did not agree with the PCB's transformation into the PPS [Popular Socialist Party]. This party wants to build a revolutionary party and establish a classless society.

The Revolutionary Communist Party is made up of Stalinists who recently left the MR-8. Their idea is to unite all communists in a single party based on Marxism-Leninism, and to establish an anti-imperialist front led by the working class.

There are also other smaller groups: the TPOR, the Revolutionary Workers Party, the Revolutionary Front,

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the People's Organization for Struggle, the Internationalist Workers League, the Marxist Collective, the Red Wing, and several regional groups.

Colombia

Pardo Criticizes U.S. Envoy's 'Meddling'

PA0505025395 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0138 GMT 5 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Santa Fe de Bogota, 4 May (EFE)—Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Pardo today denounced U.S. Ambassador Myles Frechette's meddling in Colombia's domestic policies, urging Frechette to limit himself to explaining U.S. positions.

In statements made to the nationally televised "Seven O'Clock Newscast," Pardo said, "Colombia's domestic policy is not the affair of any foreign ambassador," adding, "the ambassador of the United States, or of any other country, should talk about his own country instead of the affairs of Colombia."

"I would like it if (Frechette) were a bit more discreet, and if he would limit himself to issues dealing with U.S. positions," Pardo said. He added that he believes the diplomat "has stated views concerning Colombian foreign policy issues on which he has no right to comment."

The minister added, "Colombia's foreign policy positions are established by the Colombian Government in an autonomous manner."

At various meetings, Frechette has voiced criticism of Colombia's struggle against drugs and his disagreement with the diplomatic and commercial rapprochement with Cuba, because, in his opinion, Colombia needs to ensure that this move toward integration is accompanied by demands for democratic changes on the island.

Likewise, Frechette has criticized Colombia for accepting the presidency of the Non-Aligned Movement during the 1995-1998 period, as well as for organizing the group's annual meeting scheduled to be held in October at Cartagena de Indias. Frechette, who was born in Chile, was appointed ambassador to Colombia in February 1994. His appointment provoked misgivings among local economic groups, which consider him responsible for the collapse of the world pact on coffee export quotas in 1989.

Commentary Suggests Declaring Frechette Persona Non Grata

PA0505132095 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 May 95

[Commentary by Antonio Panezo from "Caracol's 0600 to 0900" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Diplomacy is a discipline much closer to art than to science. It has been slowly invented in the European political culture since at least the Middle Ages, and it therefore requires certain personal traits such as intelligence and discretion.

It appears that Mr. Frechette, the current U.S. ambassador to Colombia, lacks one of these traits. The public has been noting it for a long time.

Now the Foreign Ministry itself, in an equally unwise action, has complained to Mr. Frechette instead of dealing government to government, which would mean filing a protest note to the United States or simply declaring him persona non grata.

ELN Releases Kidnapped U.S. Engineer

PA0505023995 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0026 GMT 5 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Santa Fe de Bogota, 4 May (EFE)—Police sources today reported that U.S. engineer Joseph Gravovsky, whom the Army of National Liberation (ELN) kidnapped in January in La Guajira Department, was released on 3 May in that region in northern Colombia.

Gravovsky, 73, was kidnapped on 10 January by 20 armed men when the engineer, who was working in construction for transnational companies tapping coal in La Guajira mines, was driving a station wagon along a road.

Administrative Department of Security (DAS) sources in La Guajira noted that Gravovsky's relatives have taken him to the United States to undergo medical tests, adding that his condition is "delicate." They also say they do not know whether the engineer's family paid a ransom.

Other foreigners—namely, Swedes Danny Applegate and Tommy Tyrving—were kidnapped in December near an electrical plant in the Cordoba region. Other guerrillas took Italian technicians Salvatore Rossi and Giuliano Ponzanelli hostage in the Barrancabermeja oil region in April.

Samper To Present Bills on Management of Campaign Funds

PA0505042895 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Canal A Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 May 95

[From the "Seven O'Clock Newscast"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Because of scandals that rocked the country's political parties recently, President Ernesto Samper will present to Congress two bills that essentially seek to eliminate the presence of any drug trafficking money from political campaigns, RC [Radio Caracol] reported today.

Samper's first proposal deals with the financing of political campaigns. The bill proposes the establishment of a

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ceiling on private funds in the campaigns. The authorities will closely monitor both the origin and management of these funds. The government would directly provide the rest of the campaign money.

The second proposal deals with the parties' new internal statutes. Among other things, the statutes would stipulate that congressional candidates would be chosen through popular consultations and that the candidates must be carefully scrutinized, ethically and morally, to ensure their backgrounds are clean. These proposals will be presented to the Congress in June.

Government To Start Ad Campaign To Capture Cartel Leaders

PA0505042695

[FBIS Editorial Report] Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Canal A Network in Spanish at 0000 GMT on 5 May, as part of its regularly scheduled "24 Hours" newscast, broadcasts a two-minute report on a new government television ad campaign urging people to help apprehend the top Cali Cartel leaders.

Announcer Paula Jaramillo says, "The government has made a most important decision in its fight against drug trafficking and has begun broadcasting the pictures and aliases of Cali Cartel members."

The newscast then airs the 64-second advertisement, which begins with split-screen still photographs of Gilberto Rodriguez Orejuela, alias El Ajedrecista, and Miguel Rodriguez Orejuela. Above each picture appears the word "Wanted" and the amount of the reward for each—"1.5 billion pesos." Along the bottom of the screen the words "Full Confidentiality" are written.

The video then shows still photographs of the faces of Jose Santacruz L., alias El Chepe, and Elmer Herrera, alias El Pacho Herrera. The reward for each of these men is 500 million pesos and along the bottom of the screen appear the words "Location: Abroad."

The next frame shows the faces of Victor Patino, alias El Papi, and Phanor Arizabaleta, and a 500 million peso reward is posted for each of them. The following frame shows a still photo of Henry Loaiza, alias El Alacran, on the left half of the screen. A 500 million peso reward also is being offered for him. On the right half of the screen appear the words: "You Set the Conditions."

The advertisement then displays toll-free numbers people can call to give information in Cali and Santa Fe de Bogota. A post office box address is also shown. The next frame reads: "Full Confidentiality and Relocation of Your Family Abroad Are Guaranteed."

Madrid EFE in Spanish at 2104 GMT on 4 May transmits a related 250-word, Santa Fe de Bogota-datelined report on the newly offered rewards, saying, "According to an official source, the Colombian Government today decided to triple the amount of its rewards for those people who give information leading to the arrest of top Cali Cartel chiefs." The EFE report adds, "The increase in the amounts of the rewards was announced following a meeting among Defense Minister Fernando Botero, Police Director General Rosso Jose Serrano, and other high-ranking Army and police officers, with the 'approval' of President Ernesto Samper, the source stated."

Ecuador

Duran-Ballen Not To Attend Fujimori Inauguration

PA0405211795 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1700 GMT 3 May 95

[From "The Voz Andes Newscast"]

[FBIS Translated Text] President Sixto Duran-Ballen has said he will not travel to Peru to attend the inauguration of his Peruvian counterpart, Alberto Fujimori, who was reelected on 9 April for the 1995 through 2000 presidential term. I will not go to Lima. I do not think I should go, especially now that, without premeditation, I did not have the heart or the spirit to shake Fujimori's hand in Uruguay, the chief of state said. The Ecuadoran president added that the current situation between Ecuador and Peru does not favor Duran-Ballen's visit to Lima.

Ecuadoran Foreign Relations Minister Galo Leoro referred to the statements made by Efrain Goldenberg, his Peruvian counterpart, that his country will invite all governments of the nations that maintain diplomatic relations with Peru to the inauguration. Leoro explained that an invitation extended to a government includes everyone from a policeman to the president of the Republic.

Peru

JNE Releases Congressional Vote Results

PY0405122095 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 24 Apr 95 pp A1, A4

[FBIS Translated Text] The National Election Board [JNE] last night released the official results for 100 percent of the votes for congressmen cast by the citizens to elect the 120 members of the next Congress of the Republic, which will be installed on 28 July.

With this, the general electoral process has ended. The elections were held two weeks ago throughout the country.

The candidate gaining the greatest number of votes for a Congress seat was Martha Chavez Cossio, of the Change 90-New Majority alliance, who obtained 488,606 votes.

Among Union for Peru Movement candidates, Daniel Estrada Perez gained the greatest number of votes, obtaining 141,620.

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The candidate with the greatest number of votes for the APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] Party was Agustin Mantilla Campos, with 37,287 votes; while Fernando Olivera Vega of the Independent Moralization Front garnered the greatest number of votes for his party, with 100,337.

Dennis Vargas Marin gained the most votes for the Democratic Coordinating Movement-Peru Viable Nation, with 49,572 votes; while Arturo Castillo Chirinos of the Popular Action party obtained 28,111 votes; Lourdes Flores Nano of the Popular Christian Party obtained 67,170 votes; Rafael Rey Rey of the Renewal Movement obtained 78,983 votes; Maximo San Roman of the Obras Civic Movement obtained 21,536 votes; and Javier Diez Canseco of United Left with 17,967 votes.

According to the distribution of congressional seats done according to the distribution mechanism, the following have obtained only one seat: the Independent Agrarian Movement, with Ivonne Susana Diaz Diaz, who obtained 10,280 votes; the Peru to the Year 2000-FNTC [National Front of Workers and Peasants], with Roger Caceres Velasquez, who obtained 7,577 votes; and the Popular Agricultural Front of Peru, with Javier Noriega Febres, who obtained 7,453 votes.

JNE sources have reported that in many cases the vote tally in Lima considerably modified the partial results presented over the past week.

To fully conclude the electoral process, the JNE needs only to release a resolution on the possible objections that might be submitted against the official results, and also to proclaim and award the respective credentials to candidates for the presidency and vice presidency of the Republic, as well as for the elected congressmen.

The following are the names of the 120 elected representatives, according to the report released last night by the JNE, to make up the unicameral Congress of the Republic, which will be fully operating as of 28 July 1995.

The order of publication is in decreasing order, according to the number of votes with which they were elected. As additional information, the number in the order in which they were included as candidates on the lists of their respective parties is included between parentheses to the right of their names.

CHANGE 90-NEW MAJORITY

01. Martha Chavez Cossio	(1)	488,606 votes
02. Victor Joy Way Rojas	(2)	201,839 votes
03. Luz Salgado Rubianes	(10)	54,021 votes
04. Martha Hildebrant Perez	(4)	44,226 votes
05. Miguel Quicana Aviles	(95)	42,725 votes
06. Miguel Velit Nunez	(6)	41,452 votes
07. Adolfo Amorin Bueno	(75)	35,944 votes
08. Aurora Torrejon Riva	(12)	34,769 votes
09. Luis Delgado Aparicio	(3)	28,192 votes
10. Carlos Torres y Torres Lara	(5)	27,371 votes
11. Daniel Espichan Tumay	(13)	21,770 votes
12. Helbert Salmavides Dongo	(51)	21,710 votes
13. Andres Reggiardo Sayan	(20)	19,591 votes
14. Carlos Ferrero Costa	(9)	19,189 votes
15. Victor Ruiz Caro	(45)	18,760 votes
16. Cesar Larrabure Galvez	(50)	18,586 votes
17. Eduardo Pando Pacheco	(77)	18,433 votes
18. Oscar Martorell Flores	(28)	18,375 votes
19. Carlos Leon Trelles	(55)	16,813 votes
20. Edith Mellado Cespedes	(36)	16,485 votes
21. Victor Fernandez Bustinza	(43)	15,353 votes
22. Francisco Ramos Santillan	(107)	15,262 votes
23. Jubert Chavez Serrano	(44)	14,859 votes
24. Rafael Urrelo Guerra	(23)	14,590 votes
25. Juan Cardozo Romero	(97)	13,861 votes
26. Juan Hermoza Rios	(32)	13,850 votes
27. Maria Jesus Espinoza Matos	(85)	12,866 votes
28. Samuel Matsuda Nishimura	(40)	12,791 votes
29. Alfonso Baella Tuesta	(18)	12,701 votes
30. Erland Wilmer Rodas Diaz	(68)	12,621 votes
31. Luis Eduardo Chang Ching	(59)	12,001 votes
32. Jorge Figueroa Vizcarra	(58)	11,788 votes
33. Samuel Reyna Farje	(90)	11,654 votes
34. Juan Carlos Lam Alvarez	(38)	11,611 votes
35. Oscar Medelius Rodriguez	(42)	11,504 votes
36. Gamaliel Barreto Estrada	(52)	11,473 votes
37. Carlos Blanco Oropeza	(14)	11,261 votes
38. Mario Paredes Cueva	(111)	11,036 votes
39. Jose Sanchez Vega	(24)	10,784 votes
40. Gamaniel Chiroque Ramirez	(103)	10,614 votes
41. Cristobal Villasante Chambi	(29)	10,521 votes
42. Alberto Sato Abe	(66)	10,425 votes
43. Segundo Aliaga Araujo	(63)	10,377 votes
44. Jorge Ruiz Davila	(46)	10,357 votes
45. Ricardo Marcenaro Frers	(11)	10,224 votes
46. Jorge Muniz Ziches	(7)	10,077 votes
47. Gilberto Siura Cespedes	(17)	9,880 votes
48. Anastasio Vega Ascencio	(34)	9,577 votes
49. Carlos Reategui Trigoso	(57)	9,537 votes
50. Pedro Vilchez Malpica	(25)	9,340 votes
51. Virgilio Gutierrez Mercedes	(41)	9,304 votes

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52. Demetrio Patsias Mella	(48)	9,104 votes
53. Edilberto Diaz Bringas	(114)	8,841 votes
54. Luis Campos Baca	(100)	8,435 votes
55. Eusebio Vicuna Vasquez	(60)	8,425 votes
56. Gustavo Flores Flores	(109)	8,333 votes
57. Oswaldo Sandoval Aguirre	(19)	8,154 votes
58. Carlos Barbaran Rengifo	(33)	8,034 votes
59. Juan Jose Jhong Junchaya	(112)	7,971 votes
60. Alfonso Cerrate Valenzuela	(62)	7,810 votes
61. Alejandro Abanto Pongo	(70)	7,698 votes
62. Maria Lozada de Gamboa	(61)	7,692 votes
63. Jorge Trelles Montero	(15)	7,538 votes
64. Anselmo Revilla Jurado	(96)	7,408 votes
65. Juan Huamanchumo Romero	(54)	7,365 votes
66. Roger Amuruz Gallegos	(76)	7,349 votes
67. Genaro Colchado Arellano	(64)	7,335 votes

UNION FOR PERU

01. Daniel Estrada Perez	(1)	141,620 votes
02. Graciela Fernandez Baca	(2)	32,499 votes
03. Henry Pease Garcia	(9)	23,207 votes
04. Alfonso Grados Bertorini	(11)	21,242 votes
05. Gustavo Mohme Llona	(7)	18,332 votes
06. Jorge Avendano Valdez	(3)	15,656 votes
07. Aldo Estrada Choque	(36)	14,870 votes
08. Francisco Pardo Mesones	(4)	13,235 votes
09. Miguel Ciccia Vasquez	(12)	10,118 votes
10. Maria Ofelia Cerro Moral	(5)	9,948 votes
11. Harold Forsyth Mejia	(50)	8,983 votes
12. Rigoberto Esquerra Cacers	(28)	8,667 votes
13. Anel Towsend Diez Canseco	(26)	8,463 votes
14. Roger Guerra Garcia	(8)	8,290 votes
15. Santos Reto Neyra	(79)	8,258 votes
16. Jorge Luis Donayre Lozano	(19)	7,209 votes
17. Carlos Chipoco Caceda	(13)	6,473 votes

APRA

01. Agustin Mantilla Campos	(1)	37,287 votes
02. Jorge del Castillo Galvez	(2)	35,944 votes
03. Alejandro Santa Maria	(4)	22,501 votes
04. Freddy Ghilardi Alvarez	(19)	10,807 votes
05. Luis Lastenio Morales Costa	(55)	7,046 votes
06. Cesar Zumaeta	(20)	6,843 votes
07. Angel Velasquez Quesquen	(13)	5,437 votes
08. Edgar Nunez Roman	(15)	5,376 votes

INDEPENDENT MORALIZATION FRONT

01. Fernando Olivera Vega	(1)	100,337 votes
02. Beatriz Merino Lucero	(5)	8,961 votes
03. Jorge Salazar Vargas	(97)	7,102 votes
04. Ernesto Gamarra Olivares	(2)	6,843 votes
05. Antonio Llerena Marotti	(69)	5,006 votes
06. Elferez Vidarte Correa	(45)	4,897 votes

CODE-VIABLE NATION

01. Dennis Vargas Marin	(1)	49,572 votes
02. Jose Barba Caballero	(2)	16,216 votes
03. Luis Alberto Chu Rubio	(30)	6,866 votes
04. Moises Heresi Abdelnour	(15)	6,047 votes
05. Enrique Pulgar Lucas	(80)	4,145 votes

POPULAR ACTION

01. Arturo Castillo Chirinos	(1)	28,111 votes
02. Daniel Coral Perez	(12)	11,543 votes
03. Javier Alva Orlandini	(2)	7,778 votes
04. Angel Bartra Gonzales	(30)	5,991 votes

POPULAR CHRISTIAN PARTY

01. Lourdes Flores Nano	(1)	67,170 votes
02. Antero Flores Araoz Esparza	(2)	20,305 votes
03. Xavier Barron Cebreros	(4)	12,566 votes

RENEWAL MOVEMENT

01. Rafael Rey Rey	(1)	78,983 votes
02. Enrique Chirinos Soto	(2)	12,149 votes
03. Arturo Salazar Larrain	(4)	2,648 votes

OBRAS CIVIC MOVEMENT

01. Maximo San Roman	(1)	21,536 votes
02. Manuel Lajo Lazo	(2)	6,204 votes

UNITED LEFT

01. Javier Diez Canseco Cisneros	(1)	17,967 votes
02. Rolando Brena Pantoja	(2)	5,861 votes

INDEPENDENT AGRARIAN MOVEMENT

01. Ivonne Susana Diaz Diaz	(13)	10,280 votes

PERU TO YEAR 2000-FNTC

01. Roger Caceres Velasquez	(1)	7,577 votes

POPULAR AGRICULTURAL FRONT

01. Javier Noriega Febres	(1)	7,453 votes

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